■ ENTERTAINMENT / A2-1
Sutherland falls, Sarandon goes on chi machine, Crowe grooves

■ NEWS/ A9
First 10 winners of PDI Platinum Code contest get prizes

■ BUSINESS/ B1
Megaworld spending P7B for 25-ha resort hotel at Villamor Air Base

■ WORLD/ A13
Syrian interior minister kills self over murder of Lebanon's ex-PM

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

IMF: Political uncertainty biggest risk to RP economy

By Doris C. Dumlao and Michelle V. Remo

EVEN AS POLITICAL UNCERTAINTY REmains the biggest risk to the Philippine economy, the International Monetary Fund urged the Arroyo administration to send a strong signal to financial markets and restore investor confidence by accel-

IMF/ A4

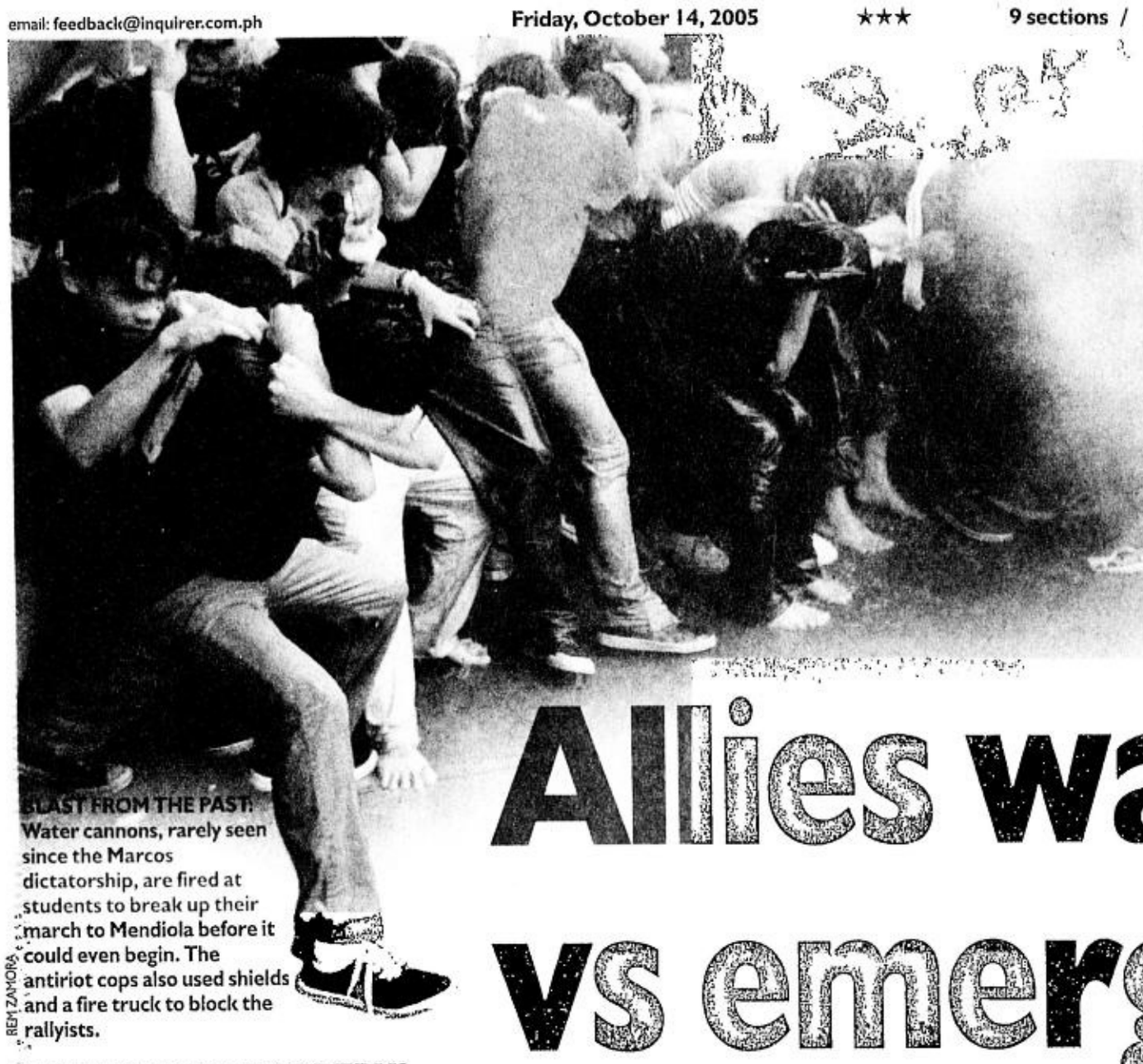
From whistles to guitars; traffic enforcers go musical

By Tarra V. Quismundo

TRAFFIC ENFORCERS trading whistles for saxophones and trumpets. Street sweepers strumming guitar riffs.

FROM WHISTLES/ A4

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph Friday, October 14, 2005 ★★★ 9 sections / Vol. 20 / No. 308 P18 website: www.inq7.net



BLAST FROM THE PAST: Water cannons, rarely seen since the Marcos dictatorship, are fired at students to break up their march to Mendiola before it could even begin. The antiriot cops also used shields and a fire truck to block the rallyists.

REM ZAMORA

Allies warn GMA vs emergency rule

Ms Arroyo reminded Congress' concurrence needed

By TJ Burgonio

WITH MALACAÑANG ADMITTING THAT EMERGENCY rule was an option, administration lawmakers yesterday joined the opposition bandwagon, warning President Macapagal-Arroyo she risked losing not only the support of her political and military allies but also the presidency.

As emergency rule jitters continued, Sen. Rodolfo Biazon said that declaring martial law was not a power vested in the President, but a "shared authority and responsibility" between the executive and legislative departments.

"If martial law is imposed without concurrence from Congress, this will become an unconstitutional move," he said in a news briefing.

"If the order is unconstitutional, then the Armed Forces, because they are asked to defend the Constitution itself, may disobey this illegal and unconstitutional order."

Biazon, a former Armed Forces chief of staff, said disobedience could take the form of withdrawal of support, citing the military's desertion of President Joseph Estrada in 2001 that led to his ouster.

Biazon pointed out that under the Constitution, Ms Arroyo was mandated to report to Congress within 48 hours a proclamation of martial law and Congress "could there and then revoke the declaration." If Congress is in recess, the legislative body could convene

ALLIES/ A6

GREAT TRAIN ROBBERY?

'Documents so loose it's easy to get away with anything'

By Clarissa S. Batino

(Last of three parts)

ISIDRO CONSUNJI, PRESIDENT OF ONE of the Philippines' largest engineering firms, wasn't very impressed with the paperwork on the NorthRail project to build a 32-km railway between Caloocan City and Malolos, Bulacan.

An TEAM *Report*
Project Editor
Fernando del Mundo

He recalled that when DM Consunji Inc. was a subcontractor for the civil works of Line 2 of the Light Rail Transit in the capital, the boardroom table in his office wasn't big enough to accommodate all the contract documents.

Line 2 stretches over 13.8 km from Santolan, Pasig, to Divisoria in Manila.

Consunji said the papers he had seen of the NorthRail project were this thick, gesturing three inches with his thumb and index finger.

"Everything is Chinese. The process is not typical of most government contracts, certainly not of any government contract I know

DOCUMENTS/ A21

NorthRail, NHA chiefs: Project on fast track for squatters

By Alcuin Papa

CLAIMS THAT THE NORTHRAIL PROJECT IS either off track or is in imminent danger of derailment are grossly exaggerated, according to officials behind an ambitious program to set up a commuter train service linking Metro Manila and Clark.

Jose Cortez, president of North Luzon Railway Corp. (NorthRail), said construction of the first phase of the program, a 32-km railway line from Caloocan to Malolos, was scheduled to begin in November. He expected the initial line to become fully operational in three years.

Disputing allegations that the NorthRail agreement with its Chinese contractor, CNMEG, was riddled with anomalies, Cortez said that the deal was aboveboard. He described

NORTHRAIL/ A21

BIG BUSINESSMEN cheered President Arroyo on when she lambasted her critics at the 31st Philippine Business Conference and Exposition. With Ms Arroyo is Donald Dee, president of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry. LYN RILLON

GMA slams opposition, Senate in fiery speech

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. and TJ Burgonio

IN A RED SUIT THAT MATCHED her fiery speech, President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday lashed out at both the political opposition and members of the Senate.

The first tirade was against the spying scandal in the White House involving a Filipino-American, and the second tirade was against the continued detention of National Security Adviser Norberto Gonzales.

Gonzales was cited in contempt by the Senate because he refused to name the financiers of a contract he had entered into with a US lobby firm to get American funding for Ms Arroyo's plans to amend the Constitution.

Even before the Federal Bureau

GMA SLAMS/ A8

SC: Charge Michael Ray in Dacer-Corbito slays

By Armand N. Nocum

A SUPREME COURT RULING ON THE abduction and murder of publicist Salvador "Bubby" Dacer and his driver, Emmanuel Corbito, has improved the chances of having former Senior Supt. Michael Ray Aquino extradited from the United States, according to Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez.

Aquino, who left the Philippines in July 2001, was arrested last month in New York by the Federal Bureau of Investigation on espionage charges.

But since Aquino is facing conspiracy charges in the US, the authorities there would not turn him over to the Philippine government until his case is finished, National Bureau of Investigation Interpol chief Ricardo Diaz told reporters yesterday.

"The US laws will prevail over our own simply because Aquino is there," Diaz said, adding that the former police official would have to serve time in the US in case he is convicted.

In a 24-page decision issued on Oct. 10, the high court ruled that Aquino should be included as a respondent in the killing of Dacer and Corbito in November 2000.

But the high court said Supt. Glenn Dumlao, who had linked Aquino and several others to the crime, should be excluded as an accused.

The decision, penned by Associate Justice Minita Chico Nazario, affirmed a ruling of the Court of Appeals to include Aquino in the charge sheet for the double murder.

Earlier, the appellate court overturned a Manila Regional Trial Court ruling, which junked the "amended information" of the Department of Justice that sought to include Aquino, a former member of the Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Task Force, in the case.

SC: CHARGE/ A8

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: At 2 p.m. yesterday, the eye of typhoon Nando was located at 1,015 km northeast of Northern Luzon. It had maximum sustained winds of 160 kph near the center and gustiness of up to 195 kph. It is forecast to move north at 7 kph. Intertropical Convergence Zone is affecting Southern Luzon and Visayas.

COMPILED BY CYRIL L. BONABENTE, PDI RESEARCH/10/14/05 SOURCE: PAGASA

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph

Second FRONTPAGE

Text us your feedback: inquirer news name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Metro Manila	Cloudy with Rains	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Partly Cloudy
Catapan	Cloudy with Rains	Davao	Partly Cloudy

Gov't moves to tighten land case

Panel has 30 days to study Luisita options

By Blanche S. Rivera

THE PRESIDENTIAL AGRARIAN REFORM COUNCIL YESTERDAY moved to strengthen the agrarian reform department's position revoking the stock distribution option agreement of Hacienda Luisita.

The 24-member PARC created an interagency committee to validate the Department of Agrarian Reform's report recommending the cancellation of the SDO and study its legal, budgetary and even political implications.

"This will likely get to court and we do not want to become a laughingstock... The consensus is to strengthen the DAR's position because there are still a lot of legal and financial issues to be answered," said Environment Undersecretary Manuel Gerochi.

Agrarian Reform Secretary Nasser C. Pangandaman inhibited himself from chairing the PARC.

"It would not look good if I preside over a meeting that was called to decide on the DAR's recommendation, which I made," said Pangandaman.

All the PARC's members, including their assistants, packed the board room of the DAR as the council started deliberations on the decision to scrap the Hacienda Luisita SDO and order the re-distribution of the 4,915-hectare sugar estate owned by the family of former President Corazon C. Aquino.

The PARC decided to give the chairmanship of the validation committee to the Department of Justice. Also included in the committee are the agrarian, agriculture and labor departments, the Land Bank of the Philippines, the Cooperative Development Authority, one representative each for the landowners and farmers, and the Office of the President-Office of the Executive Secretary.

The committee was given 30 days, starting next Wednesday, to complete the validation and present a recommendation to the PARC.

A source who attended the meeting said the PARC created the committee to make sure that when the council's decision came out, "no third party could criticize it as being politically motivated or legally weak."

"This is a big case. Even if the people here are just doing their jobs, this Luisita case has political ramifications... We don't want anybody to claim that this was railroaded so we're intelligently discussing all the ramifications," the source said.

The PARC is the highest governing body of the agrarian reform program. It was also the body that approved the SDO of Hacienda Luisita in 1989, under the Aquino presidency.

Farmer representative Romulo Tapayan said many questions were raised on the DAR report at the meeting. The PARC wanted to see the audited financial reports of Hacienda Luisita Inc., manager of the sugar estate, and more proof of the Luisita farmers' claims, he said.

"This is an emotional thing for us farmers because we were all victims of the Mendiola massacre... but we have to admit that the evidence supporting the DAR report is still weak. We cannot just tell the court that the farmers' lives had not improved," Tapayan said.

Another farmer representative declared that he would not let the PARC entertain any voluntary offer to sell by the Cojuangcos, the owners of Hacienda Luisita.

"We will not let the Cojuangcos get P1 million per hectare for their land. We will not let them voluntarily sell it. Hacienda Luisita has to be taken through compulsory acquisition," farmer representative Jimmy Tadeo said.

A militant peasant group, meanwhile, claimed that Malacañang was planning to take over Hacienda Luisita, with President Macapagal-Arroyo becoming the new landlord.

The Kilusang Magbubukid the Pilipinas said the government could be hatching plans to take over companies and vital industries through Executive Order 467.

"We have obtained reliable information that EO 467 is more than just a land administration order, but really a tool to take over Hacienda Luisita," KMP secretary general Danilo Ramos said in a statement.

Asked where their information had come from, KMP information officer Carl Ala said a "Malacañang insider" told them about it.

EO 467, initially claimed to be an emergency rule declaration, has since been explained by Palace officials as aimed at strengthening the second phase of the government's Land Administration and Management project.

With a report from DJ Yap

GMA forays into Cory country

CONCEPCION, TARLAC —President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday touched base with folks in the home province of former President Corazon Aquino, one of her critics, and thanked the province's two representatives who were among those who trashed the impeachment complaints against her last month.

The President, who inaugurated the P134-million Sta. Rita-Concepcion bridge, also acknowledged Tarlac's continued support for her administration which, she said, only showed the unity of the people known as Kapampangan, or Pampango-speaking natives.

Ms Arroyo, whose father, the late President Diosdado Macapagal hailed from Lubao, Pampanga, also considers herself a Kapampangan.

Tarlac Rep. Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III, son of Ms Aquino who voted to support the impeachment case against the President, was conspicuously absent during the occasion.

But the construction of the important bridge that Ms Aquino failed to initiate during her term and the presence of Tarlac Representatives Jesli Lapus and Gilberto Teodoro Jr. and top officials of Tarlac gave Ms Arroyo a tighter grip on "Cory country."

In her brief message delivered in Kapampangan, Ms Arroyo thanked Tarlac officials and residents for their support in the 2004 elections. She said she won by about 85,000 votes over her closest rival, the late actor Fernando Poe Jr., in Tarlac.

Ms Arroyo won in only two (Concepcion and Capas) of Tarlac's 18 towns and Tarlac City, but the aggregate votes gave her a big margin over Poe.

The Sta. Rita-Concepcion bridge is the biggest single project of the Arroyo administration in Tarlac.

The bridge and its approaches, which took seven years to complete, connect outlying villages of Concepcion to the town proper. Ten Concepcion barangays are cut off by floodwaters whenever the Parua River swells during heavy rains. *Jo Martinez-Clemente, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

House adjourns; JDV safe for now

By Michael Lim Ubac

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WAS forced to adjourn on Wednesday night because of a lack of a quorum, which allowed Speaker Jose de Venecia to keep his post, at least until Congress resumes sessions on Nov. 7.

The dissension in the majority coalition over the reorganization of the chamber – fought behind closed doors for more than two months now – finally spilled over to the floor when administration Rep. Antonio Cerilles (NPC, Zamboanga del Sur) moved to declare all seats vacant.

No one stood up to second Cerilles' motion, however, not even the opposition.

Members of the majority, apparently taking the motion for a joke, laughed out loud.

Cerilles' motion could have been a formal withdrawal of support from De Venecia's leadership, largely credited for the defeat of the impeachment bid against President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Clear manifestation

Rep. Prospero Pichay (Lakas, Surigao del Sur), chair of the 12-man House contingent of the Commission on Appointments, said the motion was a "clear manifestation" of dissatisfaction in the majority ranks.

"It can lead to withdrawal of support (from De Venecia) if it is not properly addressed," he said.

De Venecia has two options to quell the unrest – fire all committee chairs and House leaders who joined the impeachment bid, or preserve the status quo.

The reorganization is a calibrated response to purge the House leadership of anti-Arroyo lawmakers, said Pichay.

"The reorganization is harder than the impeachment. We cannot please everybody. There is always collateral damage for such a decision," said House Majority Leader Prospero Nograles.

Being fiercely fought over are the committee chairmanships which will have to be vacated by those majority coalition members who voted for the impeachment complaint.

The President's party Kabalikat ng Malayang Pilipino is eyeing two seats in the CA, but the ruling party Lakas-CMD has its own candidates.

Powerful slots

Pichay confirmed that Lakas and Kampi were exploring a formula in which "all members of Kampi will merge with Lakas. Once they become Lakas members, the (powerful) slots can be given to them."

The merger could pacify the restive Kampi president Rep. Ronaldo Puno who has vowed to block De Venecia's Charter change initiative.

But this formula would come up against another formula that requires a position vacated by a Lakas member to be occupied by another Lakas member.

AUSSIE COMMANDER VISITS
Australian special operations command chief Maj. Gen. Mike Hindmarsh (left) and southern Philippine deputy chief Brig. Gen. Francisco Callelero salute the colors as they arrive at Southern Command headquarters in Zamboanga City yesterday for a special military briefing. Neither would talk to the press after their two countries agreed to step up defense cooperation in light of the heightened terrorist threat in the region. Hindmarsh also visited a US Navy ship anchored off Zamboanga, the USS Joint Venture, which the Department of Foreign Affairs said was to take part in a humanitarian civic action later this month. REUTERS

Ships on humanitarian missions, says US official

ZAMBOANGA CITY – A US NAVY OFFICIAL said yesterday that a number of American naval vessels, including an amphibious assault ship, were in Philippine waters recently to ferry personnel, goods and equipment in support of civic projects being carried out in Mindanao at the request of the government.

Lt. Col. Kevin Jane made the clarification to allay fears that the ships were spying in Philippine waters, two days after a ship, later identified as the HSV Joint Venture, was spotted in the Basilan Strait between Basilan and Zamboanga City.

The US Embassy in Manila and the Department of Foreign Affairs confirmed that the Joint Venture was a cargo ship chartered by the US Navy and had it been issued a "right of transit" in connection with various projects of the US Navy in Mindanao.

"We don't have any intention to use the HSV Joint Venture for spying. Its major purpose is to load personnel, equipment and medicines for humanitarian work," said Jane, spokesperson for the Joint Special Operations Task Force – Philippines, which oversees the US Navy's humanitarian efforts in Western Mindanao.

He said two other ships also passed through southern Philippine waters earlier – the USNS GySgt Fred W. Stockham, a commercial container ship, and the USS Tarawa, an amphibious assault ship.

Both vessels were supporting Filipino and US personnel conducting medical, dental and civil works projects in Tawi-tawi, Sulu, Cotabato and Maguindanao, Jane said.

He said the Joint Venture was expected next week in Zamboanga City for another medical-dental mission scheduled on Oct. 24.

Julie S. Alipala, PDI Mindanao Bureau

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Bishops to march against GMA's 'immoral rule'

By Christian V. Esguerra

VOWING TO FIGHT ANY EMERgency measures President Macapagal-Arroyo may be contemplating to maintain her "illegitimate and immoral hold on power," three Roman Catholic bishops plan to lead hundreds of protesters this afternoon in a march that will take them as close to Malacañang Palace as possible.

Bishops Deogracias Iñiguez, Antonio Tobias, and Julio Xavier Labayen said they expect between 3,000 and 5,000 members and sympathizers of the Kilusang Makabansang Ekonomiya, Nationalist Economy Movement or KME, to take part in the protest. The group, which has been calling for the ouster of Ms Arroyo counts on members from the clergy and business sector.

The rally is expected to gather some political figures opposed to the Arroyo administration such as former Vice President Teofisto Guingona, former Sen. Wigberto Tañada, former governor and now TV host Oscar Orbos, lawyer Lorna Kapunan, and Sen. Jamby Madrigal.

The bishops suspect that the President is laying the groundwork for her exercise of extraordinary powers and said at a news conference yesterday that they were holding the march to protest the "eventual declaration" of emergency rule. They said the administration was using the controversial Executive Orders 464 and 467 along with the "calibrated preemptive response" policy to condition the public into accepting emergency rule.

"Its ultimate objective is to retain its illegitimate and immoral hold on power," said Bishop Labayen, reading from a KME statement.

Protesters will gather at Plaza Miranda in Quiapo at 2 p.m. before marching to the churches of St. Jude, San Beda, and San Sebastian near Malacañang. St. Jude is right beside the palace.

Organizers said they applied for a rally permit in the office of Manila Mayor Lito Atienza but got no response, which he said was tantamount to obtaining a permit under a Marcos-era law.

Bishop Iñiguez said the Plaza Miranda gathering did not require a permit because it was a "freedom park."

Asked what they would do if the march were to be blocked by police, he replied: "Let them do their job and we will exercise our rights, too."

"Let's see what will happen tomorrow," said Metro Manila police Director Vidal Querol when asked how police would handle the protest.

Labayen said today's protest was also supported by fellow bishops Leo Drona of San Pablo, Vicente Navarra of Bacolod, and Jose Manguiran of Dipolog.

The KME statement said the bishops and other members of the group were outraged by Ms Arroyo's recent directives, which exhibited a "terminal drift to authoritarianism." *With a report from Luige A. del Puerto*

3 killed in Abu ambush

ZAMBOANGA CITY – SUSPECTed Islamic militants killed three people, including two soldiers, in an ambush on Basilan island, an Army spokesperson said yesterday.

Col. Tristan Kison said suspected members of the Abu Sayyaf Group opened fire on two motorcycles carrying six people, including four soldiers, in Sumisip town on Wednesday, sparking a gun battle.

The Abu Sayyaf fighters later fled with local residents saying they saw them dragging at least two bodies of their fallen fighters.

"Two soldiers and one of the civilians driving the motorcycle were killed," Kison said. "Our troops are now pursuing the attackers. Two other soldiers wounded in the attack have been airlifted to a military hospital."

Kison said the soldiers who were killed were former members of the separatist Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), who were absorbed by the Armed Forces under a 1996 peace agreement with the government.

The small Abu Sayyaf Group has been one of the government's biggest security headaches in recent years, carrying out a series of high-profile kidnappings and bomb attacks against civilians. It has been linked by US and Philippine intelligence to the al-Qaida network. *Reuters, AFP*

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From whistles to guitars; traffic enforcers go musical

From page A1

Sidewalk clearing crews exchanging mallets for drum sticks. Office clerks crooning pop classics and current favorites.

Such a cast may soon make up a band in possibly the least likely of places: The Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA).

The agency has launched a talent search of sorts for skillful instrument players and vocalists among its roughly 8,000 employees in order to put together a band before the end of the year, MMDA Deputy Chair Cesar Lacuna said.

"It's going to be a band that would play during our social gatherings. At least, aside from what they do at work daily, they will have an outlet to show their skills," Lacuna told the INQUIRER.

Musical fleet

The band would be an addition to the agency's musical stable, which already has a choir that regularly performs during Masses at the MMDA head office in Makati City, and a marching band that plays during official functions and special events.

A project launched by Lacuna's office, MMDA's search for 14 band members began this week. Auditions during breaks and after-office hours were started on Monday, with Lacuna and other officers sitting as judges.

"What we are looking for are those with the best skills in playing instruments and singing," said Lacuna, himself an avid guitar player who regularly jams with friends.

Surprise for wannabes

Auditions would pick out MMDA's three best female vocalists, two male singers, a lead guitar player, a rhythm guitarist, a bass player, a dexterous keyboardist, trumpet, saxophone and trombone players, a drummer, and one to lay down special effects and percussion.

Explaining the audition mechanics, Lacuna said applicants would be asked to list down songs they could play or sing, then the judges would pick which ones they would perform.

This way, said Lacuna, there was an element of surprise for the band member wannabes.

The search would continue for the next two weeks or until the agency has managed to bring together a satisfactory selection, Lacuna said.

There would be no additional compensation for band members, just the reward of sharing their talents, he said.

Holiday parties

"For sure there are employees whose hobbies are singing and playing instruments, so this is one way for them to enjoy that even at work. We thought we could do this for our employees, just like we provide gym facilities for those who want to exercise," said Lacuna.

Lacuna hoped the band, yet to be given a name, could prepare early enough for the agency's Christmas parties.

He said the MMDA band would be playing a diverse repertoire, from pop and rock 'n' roll classics to recent releases.

IMF: Political uncertainty biggest risk to RP economy

From page A1

erating economic reforms.

"The primary risk to the near-term outlook for the Philippine economy is that the prevailing state of uncertainty proves to be protracted and sidelines economic reforms," the IMF board of directors said in its latest assessment report on the Philippines.

The report also identified "soaring oil prices ... (and) adverse developments in international capital markets" as other potential threats to the country's economic growth.

"If reforms were to stall, investment is likely to remain subdued and (gross domestic product) growth of 4.75 percent is projected for 2005 and 2006," the IMF warned.

Reforms interrupted

Although President Macapagal-Arroyo undertook significant economic reforms after winning the May 2004 presidential elections, her reform agenda has been interrupted by the current political crisis, according to the IMF.

The crisis broke out in June after the surfacing of the so-called "Hello, Garci" audiotapes that purportedly showed Ms Arroyo rigged the election. Ms Arroyo denied any wrongdoing, but her economic team and other Cabinet officials nonetheless resigned on July 8, and her approval rating hit record lows.

Even though its bid to impeach Ms Arroyo failed, the opposition continues to step up its pressure on the President to step down.

The IMF, however, noted that nervousness over the political situation in the Philippines had eased, paving the way for market stability and resumption of reforms.

"(IMF) directors stressed the importance of the authorities pressing ahead with the implementation of their comprehensive reform package in the fiscal, power, and banking sector to reduce the vulnerabilities of the Philippine economy," the global lender said.

VAT law best option

The expanded value-added tax (VAT) law, which the Arroyo administration had pushed to avert a looming fiscal crisis, also remains stalled in the Supreme Court after the opposition asked the tribunal to reconsider its decision upholding the constitutionality of the law.

The IMF said the VAT law was the country's best option to reduce its budget deficit and regretted the delay.

Joachim von Amsberg, World Bank country director for the Philippines, said foreign investors and creditors are closely monitoring the progress of the VAT law.

"Market perception is important. One way to strengthen credibility before investors and creditors is to implement what has been announced," Amsberg told reporters yesterday after the signing of a grant administered by the World Bank for the Philippines held at the Department of Finance.

He said it was expected for reform measures to face legal challenges in a democratic country like the Philippines. But he added it was necessary for the government to fulfill promised reforms that had already been identified as constitutional.

"Legal challenges are normal. But at the end of the day, what's important is that the executive, legislative, and the government as a whole are still able to undertake reforms critical for the country," he said.

The IMF urged authorities to consider alternatives to raising revenue in case the VAT law could not be implemented.

Even with the implementation of the VAT law, the government could still face a budget gap if it wanted to balance the budget by 2010.

Additional measures

"(IMF) directors therefore encouraged the authorities to plan additional measures, such as a sweeping rationalization of tax incentives," the IMF said.

"Expenditure reforms, including rationalizing and improving the targeting of rice subsidies, were also seen as essential," it added.

The IMF also cited the need to further raise the rates of National Power Corp., reform the civil service and pension sectors as well as speed up the privatization of Napocor assets in power transmission and generation.

In a press briefing, IMF country representative Reza Baqir voiced concerns over the operating efficiency of the National Food Authority, the sole agency handling rice importation.

"If the national government has to fund that, that means more debt has to be issued and we're all trying to get out of the debt problem to begin with," Baqir said.

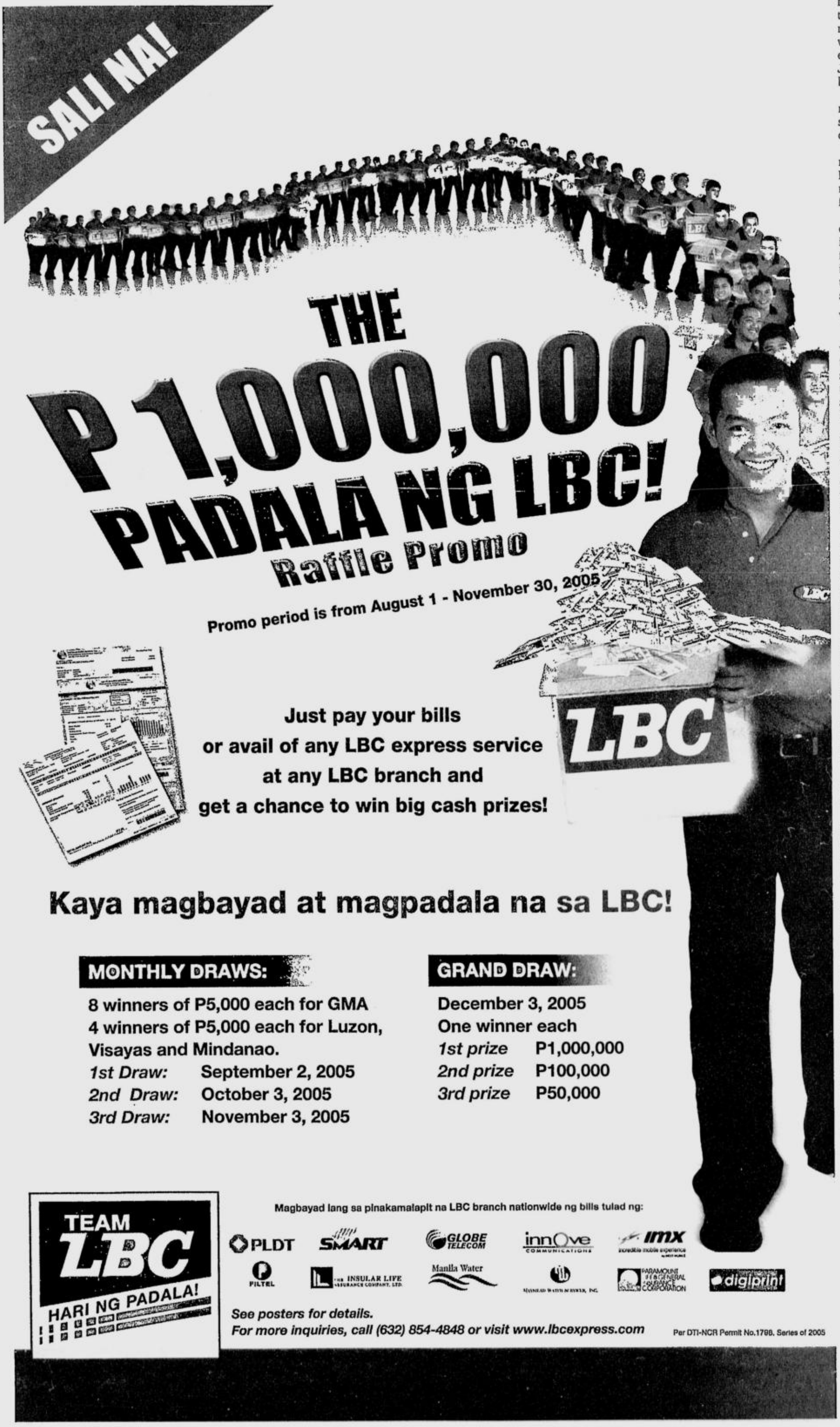
"So, rice subsidies should be better targeted. By targeting you really make sure that the subsidy itself reaches the poor who need it and there's no waste," he stressed.

Commendation

The IMF board also commended the government's stand not to subsidize fuel prices, which otherwise would have aggravated the fiscal deficit.

It supported government plans to develop medium-term deficit targets for state corporations, reform the civil service sector and offer an affordable severance package.

"Directors also looked forward to the results of the actuarial review of the Social Security System that should pave the way for placing public pensions on a sustainable footing," the IMF report said. *With reports from AFP and Reuters*



Luz mulls complaint vs Palace over move

By Alcuin Papa

DISMISSED EDUCATION UNDERSECRETARY Juan Miguel Luz is considering filing a complaint against Malacañang with the Civil Service Commission for transferring him to the labor department.

Luz told reporters yesterday he had no intention of heeding a Palace order transferring him to the Department of Labor and Employment nor does he accept the transfer.

"I am an educator. I'm not a labor expert. (If) that's what they want to do, I am just studying my options," Luz said.

One of those options would be to file a complaint today with the CSC, he said.

"I will get a civil service ruling first. If the CSC rules in my favor, I will stay. If the CSC rules against me, I will leave. If they rule against me, why would I go to the labor department? I will just go back to the private sector and make more money and I can stay in education," Luz said.

Before joining the Department of Education, Luz was an instructor at the Asian Institute of Management. He is actually on leave from AIM. He also has written some papers on the education sector.

Luz said the transfer to the labor department virtually meant he was being fired from the DepEd and from the government service.

"Termination is not part of the issue here. That cannot be. But reassignment is basically like termination," he said.

Earlier, the CSC issued an opinion that Luz could not be dismissed from the government service because he was a Career Executive Service Officer (Ceso) with a plantilla position.

Also, Luz said he was told by Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas that there was no undersecretary position available for him at DOLE.

"What's so exigent about going to a place when there's going to be no position (available) when the place you are leaving is lacking in manpower?" he said.

Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita said on Wednesday Luz should formally vacate his DepEd position because his office had already issued a memorandum transferring him to DOLE.

Luz confirmed receiving a letter dated Oct. 4 asking him to transfer to DOLE but said he did not accept the transfer.

Luz said the letter did not specify the effectivity of the transfer. But he said he would file a leave of absence from the DepEd, to start on Monday.

Aunor trial date reset to Dec. 12

By Janet Susan R. Nepales
LA Correspondent

LOS ANGELES—NORA AUNOR'S TRIAL DATE for her drug possession case, which was scheduled for Oct. 14, has been moved to Dec. 12.

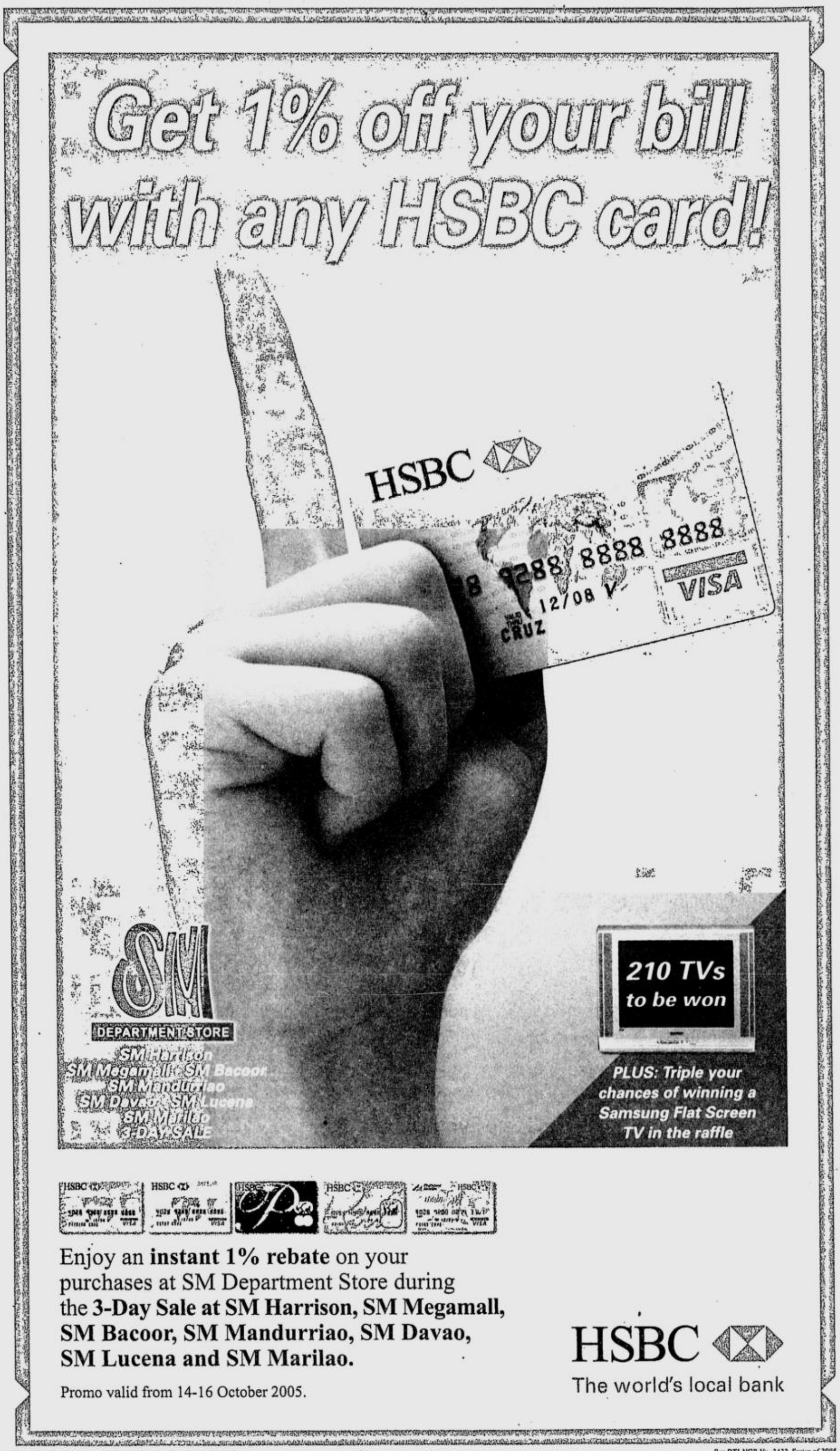
This was revealed to the INQUIRER in an exclusive interview with Aunor's defense lawyer Claire Espina.

Aunor's pre-trial date was also moved from Sept. 30 to Nov. 10, Espina added. She said that the presence of Aunor was not needed on Nov. 10. "The motions may be heard but there will be no testimony," she said.

Defense lawyer Sherwin Edelberg of Edelberg & Espina explained that "additional discovery for prosecution to make motion was granted by Superior Court Judge James R. Brandlin" at the Airport Courthouse.

Dispelling rumors that Espina was about to give up on Aunor, Espina told to the INQUIRER, "I remain committed to seeing Nora through the case—as is my partner. Our duty of loyalty and confidentiality rests only with her. Sherwin and I, so long as we remain in this case, will keep our priorities in order and we alone will remain in control of the criminal case."

"And let me add," Espina said, "Nora has been nothing but compliant with Sherwin and me. She is dear to me."



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THE DAILY PROTEST rallies (above and at left) continue on Thursday when about 300 students storm the University Belt to condemn President Arroyo's policies and reiterate the call for her immediate removal. They are no match for the shield-wielding cops who later hose them down with jets of water before they could set a foot on Mendiola Bridge, Shrine of Protest since the Seventies. REM ZAMORA

Allies warn GMA vs emergency rule

From page A1

immediately.

Congress adjourned the other day. The Senate resumes session on Oct. 24, and the House of Representatives on Nov. 7.

On Wednesday, Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita announced that the 58-year-old President was keeping the option of declaring emergency rule to handle a crisis situation that might be triggered by a terrorist attack, a breakdown in peace and order and a surge in fuel prices.

Senate President Franklin Drilon and Sen. Ralph Recto, however, dismissed reports the administration was planning to enforce emergency rule or martial law in the face of escalating protests over the lingering issue that Ms Arroyo stole last year's election. She denies the charge and escaped impeachment last month.

"On the news about emergency rule, I would associate myself with the statement of former President (Fidel) Ramos that all this talk of emergency rule is a lot of BS. I think that is the best way to assess all this talk," Drilon said.

Takeover not warranted

Drilon said he was more inclined to believe Finance Secretary Margarito Teves and Budget Secretary Romulo Neri, who had declared that the economic conditions did not warrant government takeover of private enterprises.

"Insofar as the other cases of emergency rule, which would require, for example, martial law or other instances, which may entail the suspension of human and political rights, that requires the concurrence of Congress," Drilon said.

He added that even Speaker Jose de Venecia had said that the House would not approve martial law.

"There is absolutely no basis for all this talk of emergency rule," Drilon said.

Recto also doubted the President would resort to martial rule.

Martial law a career-ender

"Without martial law she can last five years. With martial law she can't last five months. Martial law is no longer a formula for survival. Rather, it's a career-ender," he said in a statement. "This Macapagal won't do a Marcos."

If at all, Recto believed that the administration had not rushed to squelch reports of the declaration of emergency rule "probably to unsettle the opposition."

"It's more of a psywar ... to give jitters to her critics or to strike fear in the hearts of the least brave of her opponents. But I don't think she will cross the line," he said.

The President's allies in the House of Representatives asked her to rein in Cabinet members who keep discussing emergency rule.

Rep. Joey Salceda, an economic adviser to Ms Arroyo and chair of the House committee on economic affairs, told the INQUIRER that talk of the possibility of a state of emergency had spun out of control and was causing much damage to the economy and the country's image abroad.

Unnecessary, dysfunctional

"It is unnecessary, unreasonable and dysfunctional," Salceda said.

"Emergency rule can't repeal the law of supply and demand," Salceda said, referring to the idea that a state of emergency could mitigate the effects of the worldwide oil crisis.

The Albay congressman said the government had enough power to address peace and order issues as well as the terrorist threat.

Rep. Rolando Andaya of Camarines Sur, chair of the House committee on appropriations, said a state of emergency would only be justifiable under "extreme" circumstances—"when gas prices hit P10,000."

Rep. Edcel Lagman of Albay said, "there is no reason, there is no factual basis for a state of emergency."

Deputy Speaker for Mindanao Gerry Salapuddin said, "Let us not entertain wild ideas because the situation is far from the worst scenario that would justify a declaration of a state of emergency."

The Basilan lawmaker said even the international community had acknowledged the "stable peace and order situation" in the country as shown by the direct foreign investments which increased by 173 percent during the first five months of this year.

Rep. Edwin Uy (Lakas, Isabela), chair of the House committee on bases conversion and development, said "the draft proclamation should be archived to calm the people and end loose talk about emergency rule."

Salapuddin and Uy even jointly called for a "ceasefire" on persistent talk about emergency rule, noting that the three situations Ermita said would justify emergency rule were nonexistent.

Dangerous grounds

Even so, he advised Ermita to "set aside" the issue of emergency rule following Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez's clarification that he had prepared the draft proclamation as part of his job so that the President could act on "even the most extreme eventuality."

Rep. Satur Ocampo, head of the militant group Bayan Muna, told the INQUIRER the President was "treading on dangerous grounds" in exploring the possibility of imposing an emergency rule.

Ocampo said that unlike the old charters, the 1987 Constitution did not empower post-Marcos era presidents to padlock Congress and the courts of law in a martial law situation.

Ocampo sees a "pattern of similarity" between the three situations cited by Ermita as warranting the imposition of an emergency rule and the late strongman Ferdinand Marcos' justification for declaring martial law in 1972.

Trial baloons

"All of these are trial balloons to test public reaction. One thing is very clear—the administration is toying with the idea," he said.

In Baguio, Jose Cawiding, coordinator of Bayan Muna Baguio-Benguet chapter, said Ms Arroyo had no solid basis to impose emergency rule. He said militant groups would not stop going to the streets as long as the government continued applying its "antipeople policies."

Chi Galvez, secretary general of Tongtongan Ti Umili, said the emergency rule was a prelude to the declaration of martial law.

She said militant groups in the country would launch more protests because the policies imposed by Ms Arroyo had no legitimate bases. *With reports from Norman Bordadora, Michael Lim Ubac and Desiree Caluza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

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Oakwood mutineers fire lawyer

By Dona Pazzibugan

SIX OF THE 29 ALLEGED CORE LEADERS OF the July 27, 2003, Oakwood mutiny have fired their lawyer due to "conflict of interest," raising speculation they had entered into a deal with the Arroyo administration.

Lawyer Roel Pulido, who had been on the case from the start, said in an interview he was told by the group that they no longer needed his services. He refused to disclose the specific reason they were letting him go, citing client-lawyer confidentiality.

"I was asked by six of the core leaders to step down due to a potential conflict of interest," Pulido said, adding he did not know if the six had entered into a plea bargain with the prosecution. Neither would he say what could possibly cause the conflict of interest.

Any such deal, however, should extend to all 29 so-called "Magdalo" leaders and the 67 junior officers who also joined the mutiny, otherwise it would be illegal, Pulido said.

He said he had heard that the six officers would be issuing a manifesto in support of President Macapagal-Arroyo, "but I don't know anything about it."

Pulido said it was Capt. Gerardo Gambala who asked him on behalf of the other five co-defendants to withdraw as their counsel both in the coup d'etat case before the Makati Regional Trial Court and in the general court-martial.

"It's nothing personal; we have a conflicting stand with the (rest of the) group," Pulido quoted Gambala as telling him.

The five others were Captains Milo Maestrecampo, Albert Baloloy and Laurence Louis Somera and First Lieutenants Rex Bolo and Florentino Somera Jr.

Pulido formally withdrew as counsel for the six officers before the Makati court on Wednesday.

He said he might also withdraw as counsel for eight other Magdalo officers in the court-martial.

A majority of the 96 Magdalo officers were "disappointed" but respected their colleague's decision, Pulido said. He claimed that the military leadership wanted him out of the picture but he could not say why.

"They've been talking to my clients in the past. One of their conditions is that they terminate (my services)," he said.

Asked what the rebel officers were promised in return for dropping him as their attorney, Pulido replied: "The promise is *aayusin ang kaso nila* (their case will be fixed)."

Last year, Gambala, Maestrecampo and four other core leaders -- Captains Nicanor Faeldon and Gary Alejano and Lieutenants Senior Grade James Layug and Antonio Trillanes IV -- apologized to the President.

Even so, they were not allowed to enter into a plea bargain, a privilege that was extended to the 184 enlisted personnel who joined the 20-hour long mutiny.

Pulido said he did not agree with the apology, but respected the officers' decision and continued to represent them.

Talk on 'troubled' RP-US ties set

NEW ASPECTS OF THE TROUBLED HISTORY of Philippine-American relations will be the focus of a lecture by a visiting expert on the century-old relationship.

Dr. Sharon Delmendo, a former Fulbright Exchange Professor and a full professor of English at St. John Fisher College in Rochester, New York, will speak on "'Self-reliance is the key to progress': The Paradox of Sovereignty in Philippine and American Nationalisms" on Oct. 24, 2-4 pm, at the Social Science Audiovisual Room of Ateneo de Manila University in Loyola Heights, Quezon City.

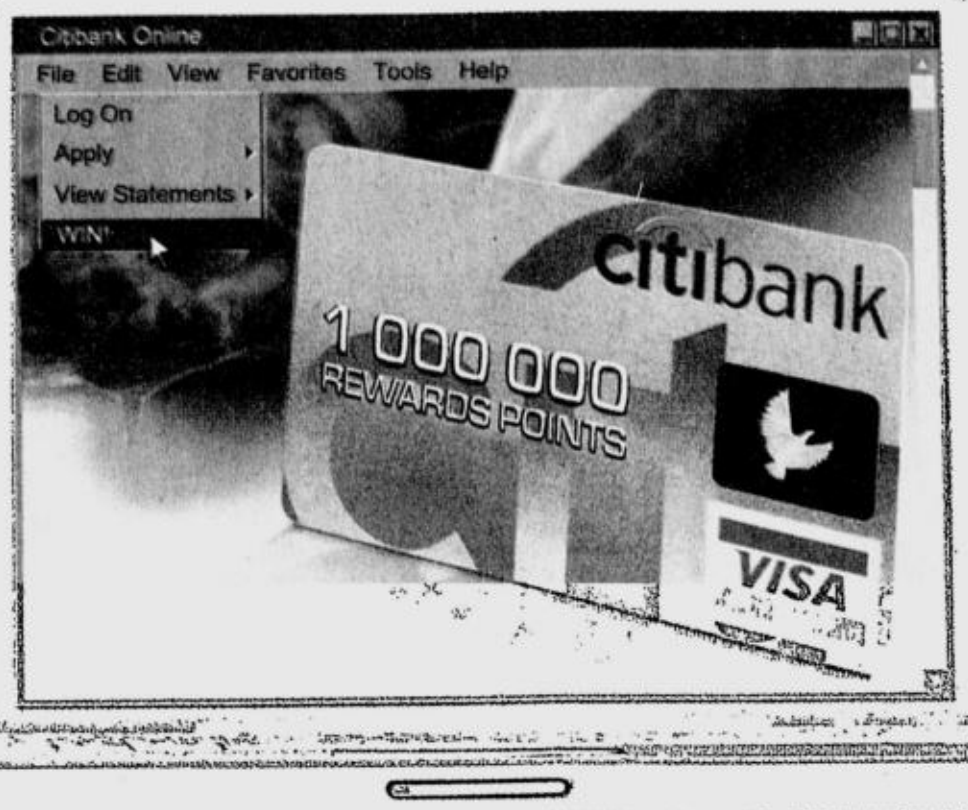
The lecture is being sponsored by the Philippine Fulbright Scholars Association (PFSA) in cooperation with AdMU.

Last year, Delmendo published "The Star Entangled Banner: 100 Years of America in the Philippines." She had been Fulbright Professor of American Studies at De La Salle University Manila from 1995 to 1996.

According to Amazon.com, her book's title comes from "a ceremony held in 1996 to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of formal Philippine independence, [when] the United States flag was being lowered while the Philippine flag was being raised, and the two became entangled.

"In 'The Star-Entangled Banner,' Sharon Delmendo demonstrates that this incident is indicative of the longstanding problematic relationship between the two countries. When faced with a national crisis or a compelling need to reestablish its autonomy, each nation paradoxically turns to its history with the other to define its place in the world.

"Each chapter of the book examines a separate issue in this linked history: the influence of Buffalo Bill's show on the proto-nationalism of José Rizal, who is often described as the 'First Filipino;' the portrayal of the Philippines in an early colonial era American children's book; 'Back to Bataan,' a World War II movie starring John Wayne; 'Viajero' by F. Sionil José: and the US military's retention of the Balangiga Bells, which were taken as war booty during the Philippine-American War.



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Per DTI-NCR Permit Number 2588 Series of 2005

GMA slams opposition, Senate in fiery speech

From page A1

of Investigation (FBI) could complete its probe, the President virtually accused antiadministration forces of masterminding the first spying scandal in the White House.

Crossing the line

"Meddling with espionage with the foreign power to undermine our nation is crossing the line. It's dangerous," Ms Arroyo told the country's biggest business organizations.

"Stop undermining our relations with the US and other allies, through conspiracies, to gather foreign intelligence. Stop luring good Filipinos into taking actions that are an embarrassment to the nation and to Philippines pride," she said in her address to the 31st Philippine Business Conference.

The President said she was referring to "those critics and opposition leaders and destabilizers, who would put politics above the people, who would besmirch the reputation of our great nation with our friends and allies abroad to fuel their own political agenda here at home."

It was the first time that the President spoke about the White House spy scandal although Malacañang had repeatedly pointed the finger at politicians, who admitted to getting e-mails from Michael Ray Aquino, a former officer of the Philippine National Police.

Last month, the FBI arrested Leandro Aragoncillo, an FBI analyst and former White House aide, and Aquino on charges of espionage but it has yet to identify other parties involved in the case.

The FBI is investigating whether Aragoncillo, a 21-year Marine veteran who became an FBI intelligence analyst last year, took documents when he worked in Vice President Dick Cheney's office at the White House.

Aragoncillo is accused of filching White House and FBI documents damaging to President Arroyo and of passing them to Aquino and to opposition leaders in the Philippines.

Some of the documents obtained by Aragoncillo described Ms Arroyo as weak and overbearing and Vice President Noli de Castro as inept and unfit to succeed her amid persistent coup plots.

The President lamented how her efforts to lift the economy out of its stupor had been undermined by her political foes.

"To those who oppose me, it is your right to do as long as it is a matter of fiscalization. But power grab and ouster are another matter. Please stop impeding the progress of the nation in the meantime in your unquenchable thirst for power," she said.

Business leaders soundly applauded the President's fighting stance against her political foes after enduring months of political instability triggered by allegations that she stole the 2004 presidential elections.

"We are just manifesting our support to the Chief Executive's move to take a more decisive, strong, and firm leadership," said Francis Chua, president of the Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chambers of Commerce.

Show of strength

Donald Dee, head of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said businessmen were glad that the President had taken off her gloves and decided to deal with her foes head on.

"We believe that her show of political strength will also translate to more determined efforts to implement economic reforms," Dee said.

Some businessmen, however, have called on the President to step down.

In her speech, Ms Arroyo sought the immediate release of Gonzales from Senate custody.

"If their (the senators) main answer to bolster antiterrorism is to lock up our national security adviser, I'm sure our Abu Sayyaf foes are taking cover with that decisive act," she said in a mocking tone.

President's trust

The Senate ordered Gonzales detained after he evaded questions during a Sept. 21 committee hearing on the Venable contract. Because his blood pressure had shot up, Gonzales has since then been confined at the Philippine Heart Center in Quezon City.

"THE FIRST PHILIPPINES," the President lauds the movers and shakers of the economy at the 31st Philippine Business Conference and Exposition. From left are businessmen Miguel Varela and Donald Dee. LYN RILLON

Medical experts have recommended that Gonzales undergo heart surgery but the President, who visited Gonzales once in his hospital room, is not planning to name a new national security adviser despite Malacañang's claims of heightened terrorist threats.

"Secretary Norberto Gonzales still enjoys the trust and confidence of the President and his head is not up for payment for the whims of any politician. Save for the fact that he has refused to reveal the privileged and confidential information affecting national security, there is no just cause to relieve him of his post," Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said in a statement.

Leave of absence

Administration lawmakers have urged Malacañang to allow Gonzales to take a leave of absence for humanitarian reasons even as as they professed their support and confidence in his ability as NSC chief.

Lakas-CMD Representatives Eduardo Zialcita (Parañaque) and Isidoro Real (Zamboanga del Sur) said Gonzales remained an important Cabinet member and not a liability as claimed by some individuals.

They said a leave of absence would provide Gonzales a much-needed respite to help him recover before resuming his work.

Fixation

The President followed up her verbal attack on the Senate by chiding it for its fixation on investigation rather than legislation.

"Would it be a miracle in the Senate to focus as much time on passing antiterrorism legislation as promoting one investigation after another, based on half truth and speculation, masquerading as facts?" the President asked sarcastically.

The President, however, gave special mention to Sen. Manuel Villar, for pushing for a Senate version of the antiterrorism bill.

The mention of Villar sparked speculation that the property mogul was Ms Arroyo's candidate to replace Senate President Franklin Drilon, who has turned from staunch ally to arch critic.

Drilon scoffed at Ms Arroyo's accusation that the Senate was bent on pressing ahead with inquiries to destabilize the administration.

Oversight functions

"The tirade of the President against the Senate today as an institution is quite unfortunate," he said at a briefing, insisting that the senators conduct inquiries in pursuit of their legislative and oversight functions.

"I am wondering why Malacañang would keep on insisting that these investigations are tools of destabilization. They should view these investigations as an opportunity for the Palace to explain all these transactions," he added.

Drilon was referring to the Senate's investigations of the controversial $503-million NorthRail project, the contract with the US lobby firm Venable LLP and the alleged misuse of the P728-million fertilizer fund in last year's presidential elections.

"You must remember that these investigations and inquiries were initiated by allies of Malacañang and in an honest effort to find out if indeed there is any truth to allegations of fraud ... if indeed certain laws were violated," he said.

Rift widens

Majority Leader Francis Pangilinan, for his part, said that the President's criticism of the Senate only further widened the rift between Malacañang and Congress triggered by Executive Order No. 464.

"It is most unfortunate that Malacañang continues to attack the Senate as an institution," he said in a text message, in reaction to Ms Arroyo's charge that the Senate was a "train-wrecker."

"There is no need to resort to name-calling because this only widens the gap and adds to the political tension. We need less tension and animosity, not more of it. The mark of effective leadership is that it seeks greater cooperation rather than greater animosity."

The public, he added, was clamoring for a "leadership that unites, not one that divides."

SC: Charge Michael . . .

From page A1

While the Court of Appeals accepted the amended information, it did not allow the removal of Dumlao's name from the list of accused.

Three of the 12 accused—Maurino Soberano, SPO3 Mauro Torres and SPO3 Jose Escalante—elevated the case to the Supreme Court.

In upholding the dropping of Dumlao from the list of the accused, the Supreme Court said that although court rules did not allow law enforcement officials from becoming state witnesses these did not prevent prosecutors from excluding him from the charge sheet.

"Admission to the WPP (Witness Protection Program) and being discharged as an accused are two different things. Dumlao's being a law enforcement officer and, thus disqualified to be under the WPP, do not in any way prohibit him to be discharged from the information," the tribunal ruled.

Asked for his views on the matter, Justice Secretary Gonzalez said the Supreme Court's decision may strengthen the bid of the Department of Justice to bring Aquino back to the country to face trial.

Efforts by the DOJ to do so in the past failed because no warrant of arrest had been issued against Aquino, with the case of his inclusion left hanging in the high court.

Dumlao still missing

In the United States, Aquino is accused of passing confidential documents obtained by FBI analyst Leandro Aragoncillo to opposition leaders in the Philippines. The documents are damaging to President Macapagal-Arroyo. Like Aquino, Aragoncillo is in jail.

A DOJ official said Dumlao remained missing.

"We don't know his (Dumlao's) whereabouts at present so I am not sure about the practical effect of the SC ruling," said a member of the prosecution team in the case who requested anonymity

With Margaux C. Ortiz

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First 10 winners of PDI contest get their prizes

TEN LUCKY READERS SO FAR have won P20,000 each in the INQUIRER's Platinum Code promo. One of them was twice lucky, winning two draws and taking home total prize money of P40,000.

The promo is being held in line with the INQUIRER's celebration of its 20th anniversary on Dec. 9, 2005. The contest began on July 17 and will end on Dec. 3, for a total of 20 weeks.

The weekly winner gets a cash prize of P20,000. The winner in the grand draw, which will be held on Dec. 6, will get P200,000.

The winners after 10 weeks were Joves L. Recibe of Antipolo City, July 26 draw; Silverius Degho, Bacnotan, La Union, Aug. 2 and Aug. 30 draws; Christian de Jesus, Pandacan, Manila, Aug. 9; Katherine Tan, Koronadal City, Aug. 16; Luz Ilagan, Davao City, Aug. 23; Alfredo Guillermo, Dasmariñas, Cavite, Sept. 6; Dr. Jaime Mario R. Cruz, San Miguel, Bulacan, Sept. 13; Roberto M. Regala, Quezon City, Sept. 20, and Wilfredo M. Sanchez, Quezon City, Sept. 27.

Mechanics

The INQUIRER Platinum Code contest challenges readers to form words out of the highlighted letters that make up the Philippine Daily Inquirer Platinum Anniversary logo. The highlighted letters may be used more than once to form the word of the day.

Where to look

There are two ways to find the INQUIRER Platinum Code of the day. For newspaper readers, the Platinum Code will appear every day on the second to the last page of the main section. Or you could go to the INQUIRER's corporate website at www.inquirer.com.ph.

There will be a one-time registration for the promo. To register, text PDI<space>20<space>answer<space>name/address/age/gender and send to 29768. This access number covers Smart, Globe and Sun subscribers.

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There will only be one registered name per cell phone number. In the event the winning cell number was registered under two names, the first registered name will be recognized.

Weekly, grand draws

Each answer sent shall be assigned a raffle entry which has a chance to win in the weekly and grand draws.

A participant may text his/her answer to the day's question a maximum of three times only.

Entries sent for the week from midnight of Sunday to 11:59 p.m. on Saturday will qualify for the week's draw.

Non-winning entries for the week will not be included in the succeeding weekly draws but will qualify for the grand draw.

The weekly winner will win P20,000 in cash. The winner in the grand draw, which will be held on Dec. 6, will receive P200,000.

All draws shall be held at the Information Gateway office at Jaycem Bldg., Rada St., Legaspi Village, Makati City. More details are available on page A19.

Don't forget to cut out the INQUIRER Platinum Code form. If you're the winner, you need to present this before you could claim your prize. Bring along the letter of notification you received and a valid ID.

Japanese faces ouster for alleged beating, rape

By Leila B. Salaverria

INSTEAD OF GETTING AN EXtension of his tourist visa, a Japanese national found himself being arrested by immigration agents on Wednesday for allegedly beating up his common-law wife and sexually abusing their househelp.

Adachi Genichiro was arrested at the Bureau of Immigration office in Intramuros, Manila, on Wednesday in an entrapment operation set up with the help of his common-law wife, Soledad Ferrer.

Immigration Commissioner Alipio Fernandez Jr. said in a statement Genichiro would undergo deportation proceedings for being an undesirable and overstaying alien, since his visa had expired.

Aside from being accused of beating up his wife, Genichiro was also the subject of a criminal complaint filed in the Manila prosecutor's office for allegedly raping one of their housemaids, according to BI intelligence chief Faizal Hussin.

Another maid had also filed a complaint with their barangay against the Japanese for allegedly forcing her to have sex with him. The helper, however, dropped the complaint out of embarrassment, Hussin said.

After Ferrer filed a complaint against Genichiro with the BI, intelligence operatives hatched a plan to entrap the Japanese with his common-law wife's help.

To get him to the immigration bureau where he was to be arrested, Ferrer pretended to take Genichiro to the BI office to help him get an extension of his tourist visa.

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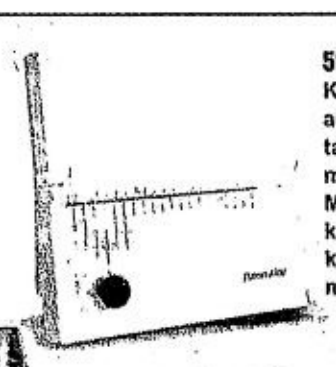

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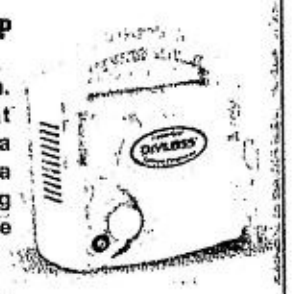

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Search for Filipino seaman called off

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA — The search has been called off for the missing Filipino sailor who fell from a ship off Australia's east coast, a rescue official said yesterday, citing serious fears for the man's survival.

The 33-year-old sailor, whose identity was not immediately released, was reported missing on Tuesday after falling from the Japanese-registered bulk carrier Hokuriku Maru, near Gladstone, about 400 kms north of Brisbane in Australia's Queensland state.

An air and sea search using five planes, six boats and a helicopter was called off after medical experts said the chances of the man surviving two nights in the water were "minimal," said Tracy Jiggins, a spokesperson for the Australian Maritime Safety Authority.

Visibility during the search had been "very good," and rescue officials had located several small items in the water near where the sailor went missing, she said.

"The search was done thoroughly ... and if the missing man had been there we would have found him," she said.

The Philippine Department of Labor and Employment yesterday said the government would be extending assistance to the family of the missing seaman.

But Labor Undersecretary Manuel Imson said he could not identify the seaman "in deference to his family and the ongoing investigation being conducted by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority."

Imson directed the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration and the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration to take the "necessary steps" to assist the family, as well as assure the families of the other Filipinos working in the Hokuriku Maru.

Chief Engineer Rogelio Sobremonte, general manager of NYK-Fil Ship management, the ship's manning agency in Manila, confirmed that the missing seaman and the other Filipino crewmen on the ship were all documented overseas Filipino seafarers.

Sobremonte said the agency was in constant touch with the seaman's family, which was being updated on the search and rescue operations in Australia.

He assured the families of the other Filipino crewmen that the latter was safe and that the ship had returned to Australia.

He confirmed that there were about 20 Filipino seafarers on board the vessel.

Imson said documented overseas Filipino seafarers were entitled to life insurance benefits of P100,000, accident insurance of P200,000, and other welfare benefits as OWWA members. *AP and Jerome Aning*

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Fears of new Saudi work law allayed

A NEW SAUDI LAW requiring 75-percent "Saudization" of the kingdom's work force is not likely to affect the deployment of Filipino workers to that country, the labor department has said.

"Filipinos remain the best preferred among foreign workers in Saudi Arabia so the OFW deployment will be least affected, even if this new law is realized," Undersecretary Manuel Imson told reporters.

Imson said the good news about the new law, which was issued on Sept. 28, was that it opened all fields of work in the kingdom to women, both domestic and foreign.

The bad news is that all Saudi companies would now be required to have Saudi nationals comprise at least 75 percent of their work force.

The new labor law is part of Riyadh's "Saudization" plan to reduce the alarming unemployment of Saudi citizens, estimated in 2004 at about 25 percent.

In 2004, the oil-rich country's labor force numbered 6.62 million, 35 percent of which were foreigners.

Imson said the new law would improve the deployment of female overseas Filipino workers to the kingdom.

According to National Statistics Office figures, there were 240,000 OFWs in Saudi Arabia last year, of which only 67,000, or about 28 percent, were women.

Aside from allowing women to work in all fields, the new law entitles them to maternity leave.

Also, employers providing jobs to 50 women or more would be required to arrange for babysitters to take care of children below 6 years old. *Jerome Aning*

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THE DAILY GOSPEL

Friday, October 14, 2005
28th Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Rom 4:1-8
Gospel: Luke 12:1-7

Such a numerous crowd had gathered that they crushed one another. Then Jesus spoke to his disciples in this way,

"Beware of the yeast of the Pharisees which is hypocrisy. Nothing is covered that will not be uncovered, or hidden that will not be made known. Whatever you have said in the darkness will be heard in daylight, and what you have whispered in hidden places, will be proclaimed from the housetops.

"I tell you, my friends, do not fear those who put to death the body and after that can do no more. But I will tell you whom to fear: Fear the One who after killing you is able to throw you into hell. This one you must fear. Don't you get five sparrows for two pennies? Yet not one of them has been forgotten by God. Even the hairs of your head have been numbered. So do not fear: are you not worth more than a flock of sparrows?"

Commentary

The crowds around Jesus swell in size and Jesus addresses his disciples publicly—warning them to beware of the yeast of the Pharisees. They are plotting to destroy him and one day all will be known and everyone will be seen and revealed for what they were—as will we in our times. And he warns them about fear—not to fear those whose power who can kill your body, but those who are intent on murdering your soul and separating you from God. Jesus uses the birds—sparrows by the millions—and not one ever forgotten by God. This is our God who will care for us much more than sparrows. We are not to fear anyone on earth. We are only to fear betraying our belief, our God, our friends in Christ. Who do we fear? Who on earth controls our words, our choices and our commitments? Are we mindful that our God holds us dear?

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SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

LABOR LAW (LABOR RELATIONS LAW) - Due process requirement in termination of employment - Under the due process requirement, two notices must be sent to the employee who is the subject of an investigation for acts which may warrant his eventual dismissal from employment. The notices required before an employee may be validly dismissed are: (a) a written notice served on the employee specifying the grounds for termination and giving the employee reasonable opportunity to explain his/her side; (b) a hearing or conference wherein the employee, with the assistance of counsel if so desired, is given opportunity to respond to the charge, present his evidence or rebut evidence presented against him/her; and (c) written notice of termination served on the employee indicating that upon due consideration of all the circumstances, grounds have been established to justify termination. The twin requirements of notice and hearing constitute elements of due process in cases of employee's dismissal; the requirement of notice is intended to inform the employee concerned of the employer's intent to dismiss and the reason for the proposed dismissal; upon the other hand the requirement of hearing affords the employee an opportunity to answer his employer's charges against him and accordingly to defend himself therefrom before dismissal is effected. Clearly, the first notice must inform outright the employee that an investigation will be conducted on the charges particularized therein which, if proven, will result to his dismissal. Such notice must not only contain a plain statement of the charges of malfeasance or misfeasance but must categorically state the effect on his employment if the charges are proven to be true. This notice will afford the employee an opportunity to avail all defenses and exhaust all remedies to refute the allegations hurled against him for what is at stake is his very life and limb his employment. Otherwise, the employee may just disregard the notice as a warning without any disastrous consequence to be anticipated. Absent such statement, the first notice falls short of the requirement of due process. One's work is everything, thus, it is not too exacting to impose this strict requirement on the part of the employer before the dismissal process be validly effected. This is in consonance with the rule that all doubts in the implementation and interpretation of the provisions of the Labor Code, including its implementing rules and regulations, shall be resolved in favor of labor. [Justice Tinga, Second Division, Maquiling v. Philippine Tuberculosis Society, G. R. No. 143884, February 4, 2005]

By R. B. Vera

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2005

The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

Quake-hit city out of space to bury dead

MUZAFFARABAD, PAKISTAN—IN DEVASTATED Muzaffarabad, at the heart of Saturday's earthquake, they are running out of space to bury the dead.

Each day in the riverside city, as rescue and salvage workers pick through the debris of thousands of collapsed homes, businesses, schools and offices, they are finding more and more corpses.

Finding them isn't hard.

The stench of death hangs over the city like a shroud and almost everyone left behind is walking around with a face mask or a cloth wrapped around their nose and mouth to combat the smell of rotting flesh.

On street after street, one or two survivors from a family stand helplessly, still in shock, staring at their ruined home, not knowing what to do next or where to begin.

"I know my wife and daughter are under there," said one resident handkerchief clutched to his nose. "But I have no one to help me dig."

Elsewhere, as residents group together to help each other scramble for the bodies of their relatives, the corpses are piling up.

At one old cemetery near the central hospital, long filled with the remains of the city's departed notables, every inch of space between the tombstones is now filled with a fresh grave.

On Thursday they were digging up the old graves and placing the newly dead on top of the long gone.

"What else can we do," said Yousef Khan, as he watched three young men he had paid to dig a grave for his wife and daughter.

"I have no means to take them elsewhere to be buried. The cars are all used for helping the living."

Tradition dictates that Muslims be buried as soon as possible after they have died—usually within 24 hours. The dead are cleaned and, instead of a wooden coffin, are wrapped in a white shroud—preferably one that has been used to perform the Haj pilgrimage. Then they are buried facing towards Mecca.

But those rites are having to be ignored because of the sheer scale of the disaster and the lack of resources available.

Travel down any one of Muzaffarabad's main streets in any direction, and by the time you return another corpse will be laid out on the pavement, wrapped in whatever material may be to hand.

Groups of youths have volunteered their services as corpsemen, helping dig for bodies and then helping dig their graves—usually in whatever bit of free space can be found.

"If someone can afford to give us something small for our work, then thanks be to God," said 19-year-old itinerant Mohammed, from Islamabad, who came to Muzaffarabad with four of his friends in the hope of getting some work in the aftermath of the quake.

"But if they can't, then we will help anyway. God will reward us," he said.

One Army officer said that the military had started sending a truck around to collect unclaimed or unidentified corpses for burial outside the city.

"There is nowhere left to deal with them here," he said.

"We have to take them outside to be buried together." *Reuters*

Wanna be James Bond? Call MI6

LONDON—FOR decades so secret it did not even officially exist, Britain's overseas intelligence agency MI6 emerged from the shadows Thursday with a website aimed at dispelling "myths" and recruiting would-be spies.

The Secret Intelligence Service, or SIS, as MI6 is officially known, said it hoped the information on the Internet would help quash "ridiculous" conspiracy theories such as the notion that British agents murdered Princess Diana.

The website—www.sis.gov.uk and also www.mi6.gov.uk—details the role, history and remit of the organization, which gathers overseas intelligence while its counterpart spying agency MI5 concentrates on domestic security.

"It's important for the public to know more about the service and to explain why MI6 has to be secret in its operations and personnel," MI6 spokesperson Nev Johnson said ahead of the website's launch.

"Also, some of the allegations, myths and rumors that have grown up around the service, such as conspiracy theories that Princess Diana was murdered, are so ridiculous that they need to be corrected.

"And the best way of enhancing the public's knowledge of SIS's roles and responsibilities is a website because that is accessible to everyone."

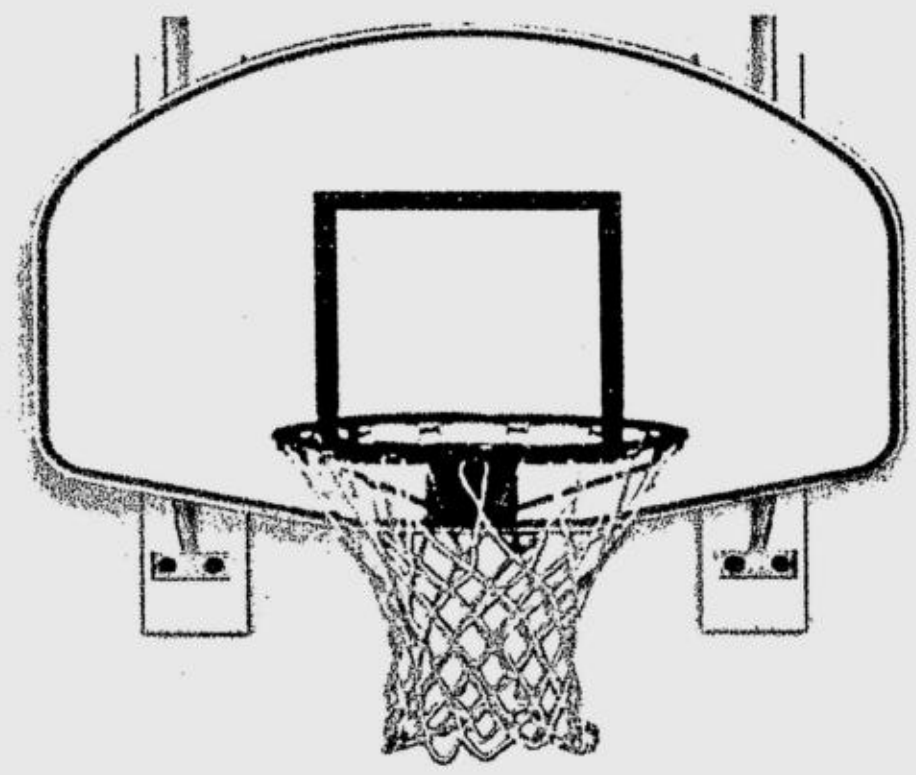
Diana died in a car crash in Paris in 1997, which an official French investigation found was caused by excessive speed and a drunk chauffeur.

The openness is a far cry from the tradition of the agency, which was founded in 1909.

Although its existence was widely known, MI6 did not officially exist in government records until as late as 1994, when the then-government acknowledged the role of the agency in a new law.

The MI6 Internet site even has a careers page, which warns budding agents that their working lives will not be the stuff of James Bond films all the time.

In a frequently asked questions section, the site says the "glamor and excitement" of Bond films is not reflected in the real job. *AFP*



Keep dreaming.

Deforestation doesn't trigger floods, UN report says

OSLO—DEFORESTATION IS OFten wrongly blamed for causing floods, like in Guatemala this month, under a myth that has skewed agricultural policies, an international report said on Thursday.

"There is no scientific evidence linking large-scale flooding to deforestation," the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Indonesia-based Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) said in a report.

The frequency of major floods in the past 120 years, back to the late 19th century when forests were far more abundant, has been stable worldwide, it said. That implied that deforestation was not a cause of flooding.

It said devastation from Hurricane Stan in central America this month had been widely and wrongly blamed on excessive runoff caused by deforestation. The same was said about recent floods in China, Thailand and Vietnam.

The report said it was incorrect to believe that forests acted as giant sponges that soak up water and release it during dry seasons. After heavy rains, excess water runs off waterlogged forest floors like off other surfaces.

The report said tree roots were too shallow to prevent major mudslides, like those that entombed hundreds of people in Guatemalan villages this week.

"Most people automatically believe that if there's a large flood then loggers and deforestation are responsible," David Kaimowitz, director general of CIFOR, said during a visit to Oslo. "In most cases it's not true."

Still, it said forests could play a role in minimizing water runoff in some localized floods but did not have an impact on severe widespread floods.

The report said some governments might cling to the myth that forests help prevent floods to let policymakers blame loggers or small farmers for their own failure to anticipate the effects of heavy rains on dams or cities downstream.

Some governments, like in China and some other Asian nations, had banned logging to try to ease flooding.

"Such misguided views have in the past prompted governments to make life harder for poor farmers by driving them off their lands and away from the forests, while doing nothing to prevent future flooding," said Patrick Durst, a senior forestry officer at the FAO for Asia and the Pacific.

"There are many good reasons to manage forests well without relying on myths," said Kaimowitz. "But you can't sell conservation to the public on false premises."

Forests provide habitats for many species of birds and insects, produce oxygen and soak up heat-trapping gases as they grow, and are a source of building materials or firewood.

And floods are a part of a natural cycle, helping maintain fertility on flood plains. In some parts of the world, crops like rice and jute depend on seasonal flooding.

The report said a surge in the human death toll and mounting economic losses from floods in recent years was largely because more people lived in flood plains.

"As a result, many floods that previously would have been only minor events now become major disasters," the report said. *Reuters*

SPANISH members of the United Firefighters use a sniffer dog to look for mudslide survivors in Panabaj, Guatemala Oct. 9. The firefighters were unable to find signs of life at the site, where up to 1,400 Maya Indians died when rains triggered by Hurricane Stan caused tons of mud and rocks to bury the village. REUTERS

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Minister in Hariri slay case kills self

DAMASCUS—SYRIAN Interior Minister Ghazi Kanaan committed suicide in his office on Wednesday, officials said, three weeks after he was questioned by a UN team probing the killing of Lebanon's former Prime Minister Rafik al-Hariri.

About an hour before Kanaan was believed to have placed a gun in his mouth and pulled the trigger, he called a Lebanese radio station to comment on Syrian-Lebanese ties, ending with the words: "I think this is the last statement I might give."

Kanaan's apparent suicide came a week before chief UN investigator Detlev Mehlis presents the findings of his inquiry into Hariri's February killing.

Shortly before news of Kanaan's death broke, President Bashar al-Assad told CNN Syria was not involved in Hariri's death and that he could never have ordered it.

Asked if Syrian officials would have ordered the killing without his knowledge, he said: "I don't think so. If it happened then it's treason.

"If (Syrians) are implicated they should be punished. International (court) or Syrian, whatever."

At least one Syrian member of parliament questioned the official version, saying he doubted Kanaan killed himself.

Syrian authorities, already under pressure from the United States which says they allow fighters into Iraq, have grown increasingly nervous over Lebanese and international charges Syria was linked to Hariri's death.

The official news agency SANA reported the suicide of the 63-year-old minister and said investigations were under way.

"There was blood on his face. The initial indications are that he put the gun in his mouth and shot himself," a political source said, adding that he died around 11 a.m.

US President George W. Bush declined to comment on Kanaan, but said Syria was still far too involved in Lebanon.

He also repeated US warnings to Syria that it should do more to stop foreign fighters from crossing into Iraq. *Reuters*

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Sportsmanship

EDITORIAL

WHEN FAR EASTERN UNIVERSITY WON (75-73) over UAAP defending champion De La Salle University a few weeks ago in the first game of the finals, La Salle assistant team manager Manny Salgado elbowed FEU star player Arwind Santos on the nape. What followed was a near-riot as coins, plastic bottles and every other item that could be hurled were thrown about. Uniformed policemen had to intervene to keep the players and supporters of both schools from hurting each other. Salgado was banned from UAAP games for life; and he had to resign in disgrace: not only because his behavior was unbecoming of an assistant team manager, but also because it reflected poorly on his fellow La Salle alumni.

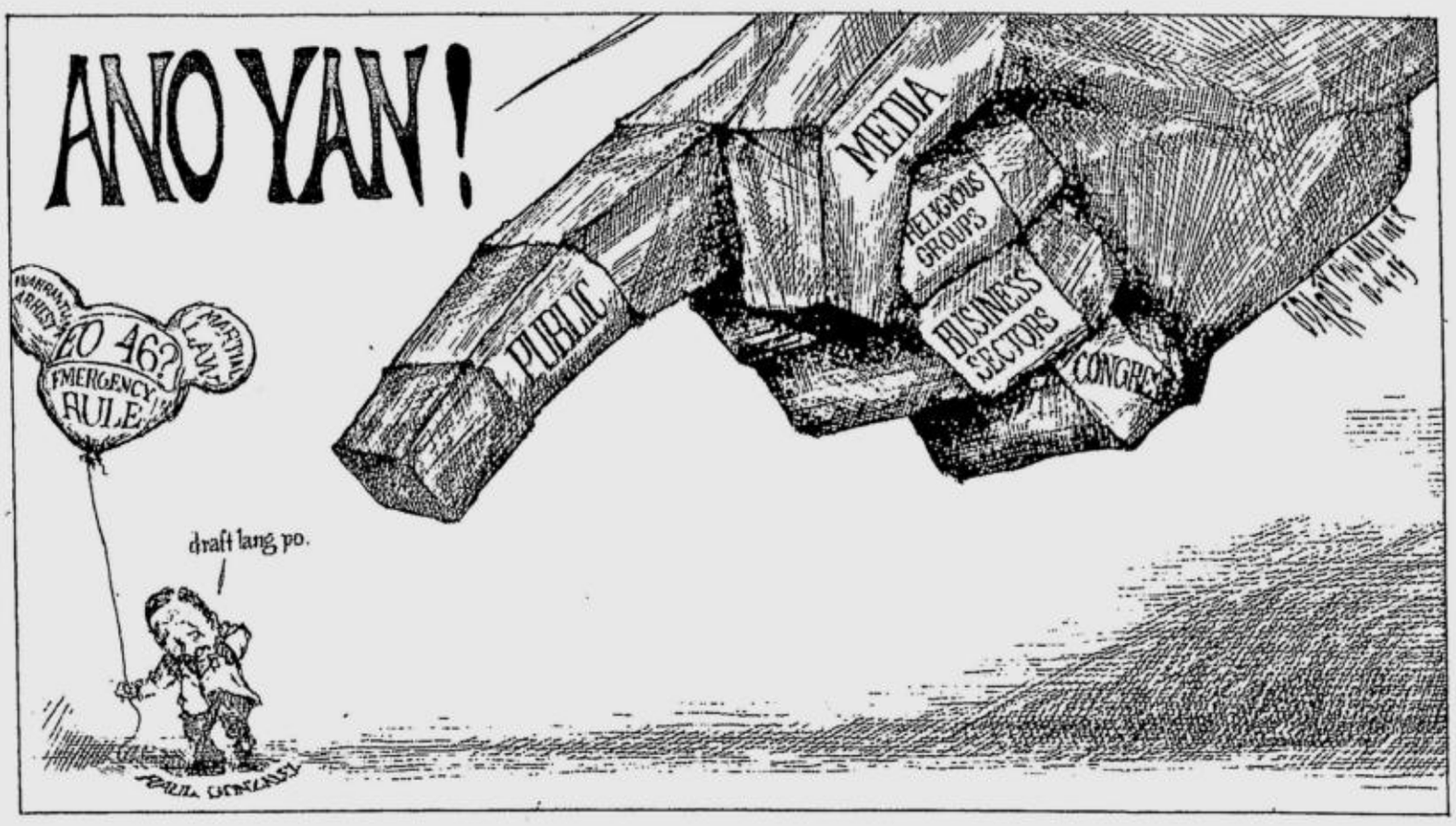
Things weren't helped by La Salle coach Franz Pumaren, who was quoted as having said that the incident added spice to the series and heightened the rivalry between the two teams. La Salle president Bro. Armin Luistro, FSC had to put his foot down and say the last word: "We certainly will not condone any such act. The incident does not reflect the values we stand for as an educational institution." Salgado, to his credit, made an unqualified apology to La Salle, the UAAP board and fans for his actions.

Now La Salle faces another problem involving a student who falsified the equivalent of a high school diploma. This means that the student, in the words of a school official, was "neither eligible for admission to DLSU nor for participation as a member of DLSU's basketball team." This has rather depressing consequences for the DLSU team: if, indeed, it fielded an ineligible player, then the team's performance during those years would be suspect. The university, for example, might have to forfeit its 2004 UAAP men's basketball championship. The controversy involving a student faking papers in order to enter a school and play in a team is not unique to DLSU. A similar controversy affected the UAAP in 1994 when Marlou Aquino was found to have played for Adamson despite academic deficiencies—resulting in Adamson being suspended for the entire 1994 season.

Collegiate-level sports are an important part not only of campus life, but of our broader national life, binding students and alumni of institutions together, and pitting them against rival schools in sportsmanlike competition. At a time when civility and honor, accountability and integrity, have become empty phrases in public life, the manner in which collegiate communities have responded to unsportsmanlike and dishonorable behavior is heartening. In the case of the La Salle player, the UAAP board has allowed DLSU to complete its internal investigation on the issue, prior to mounting its own investigation. Anton Montinola, FEU's representative to the UAAP board, has not reacted to DLSU's problems by gloating, but instead by stating what sportsmanship entails: "If you have an ineligible player, there's no other recourse but forfeit all the games that he played." Simple as that.

There will be students from various schools who will be tempted to gloat over DLSU's woes, but those woes are not unique. And what concerns us here is not what the problems of DLSU say about the school, though the intense revulsion to both Salgado's hot-headedness and Pumaren's flippancy, expressed by the school's alumni and administration speaks highly of the school; rather, it is what the problems say about the youth. Not being new, the problems indicate the age-old temptation to undertake short-cuts and engage in deceit, in the quest for glory and recognition. The reaction of DLSU, institutions such as the UAAP, and the administrations of other schools faced by similar instances of dishonorable conduct, points to the importance of institutions being the mechanism for upholding true sportsmanship.

Sportsmanship is not just about playing by the rules, but about playing according to the spirit of the rules, which demands respect for players in and among other players, their coaches and managers, their classmates and their fans. It is about responsibility and demanding it, even if—whether by a "lapse in judgment" on the court, or a deception undertaken at the registrar's office—the fault may be one person's, for a member's fault affects not only the whole team, but the whole school. We should be so lucky if the same insistence on sportsmanship and the rules were applied with equal vigor by the alumni of our universities in the sphere of public life.



Kabayan wants a bigger budget for himself?

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

ONE OF THE UP LAW CENTER'S REASONS for opposing the North Luzon Railways project is that it is allegedly overpriced. The squatters are opposing it because they don't want to be evicted from the railroad right-of-way where they are squatting on. The irony is that if the NorthRail project will be delayed, the final cost will be bigger. And if the squatters are not relocated now, they will lose the opportunity to own the houses and lots offered them now. They will continue to live in shanties along the railroad tracks, content with a congested, dirty community that often serves as haven of crime and disease—in short, a wretched existence.

If the project is stopped, even temporarily, the railroad right-of-way that has already been cleared of squatters will be invaded again by more squatters, including those who have already accepted payments from the government and those who have relocated. (The laws say those squatting on the right-of-way of government infrastructure projects, like railroads, are not entitled to relocation or financial aid.) Many of them will sell the rights to the homes that have been provided them and then go back to squatting. Thus, when the project is resumed, the expensive rigmarole of paying the squatters and relocating them will begin all over again, wasting more taxpayers' money in billions of pesos. The billions (of pesos) that have been spent on the project these past months shall have been wasted.

It is the automatic reaction of squatters to resist relocation, largely because of false information fed them by their leaders, the professional squatting syndicates, who callously make money out of the suffering of the genuine urban poor. Their leaders would tell them that the relocation sites are far from their sources of livelihood; that the sites are not provided with electricity and water connections.

What the squatters don't realize is that the longer they hold out against relocation, the farther the available relocation sites get to be as the government runs out of land nearer to the urban areas. Those who agree to relocation early get the choicest lots.

When the squatters of Intramuros were relocated to Pagasa in Quezon City, they also resisted. Pagasa, they thought, was the end of the world.

Now Pagasa is a middle-class community, right behind Shoemart North Edsa, just across Mindanao Avenue near Project 6 and the Veterans Memorial Hospital and golf course. The former squatters are now the owners of lots and houses worth millions of pesos. We can say that the former squatters of Intramuros are now multimillionaires because they agreed years ago to relocate to Pagasa.

When more squatters were relocated to Sapang Palay in Bulacan, they also resisted. Now Sapang Palay is also developing into a middle-class community, and the former squatters now living there are themselves also on the way to becoming multimillionaires. And it is now nearer to Metro Manila than most of the very expensive, classy subdivisions being developed.

What's more, when the NorthRail is already operating, the former squatters can commute quickly and cheaply from their homes in the suburbs to Metro Manila—or anywhere else in Luzon—via the trains. They can leave home after breakfast, work in Metro Manila and be back home in time for dinner. In Japan, workers in Tokyo take the bullet train to their homes—traveling a distance equivalent to that between Manila and Tarlac or Pangasinan—and get there by dinnertime. The complaint that the relocation sites are too far from their places of work would be a thing of the past.

In short, by blocking the NorthRail project, the squatters are blocking the improvement of their own living conditions.

Moreover, the railroad will provide more job opportunities, not only in the rail line itself, but in the many industries and businesses that will be encouraged by the cheap, quick and easy transportation for people and cargoes. Products and supplies will be cheaper and more plentiful. The countryside will be developed and its residents need not go to urban areas to work.

The reason urban areas are congested is that provincial folk leave their homes to look for jobs in the cities, where they endure appalling living conditions in squatter colonies, waiting for jobs that don't come. With the railroad, they can enjoy the sunshine, fresh air and the wide open spaces of the bucolic countryside and still work in the city.

Ask those who have been relocated earlier and did not sell the rights to their lots. They will tell you that agreeing to relocate was the best decision they ever made in their lives.

* * *

Vice President Noli de Castro is supposed to be a man of the *masa*. He was supposed to have been supported by the Great Unwashed in the last elections. But what is this, he is ripping them off of their taxes at the very first opportunity. In its first budget proposal under De Castro, the Office of the Vice President is asking for a hefty increase in its budget for 2006. And the government is supposed to be going bankrupt.

For "miscellaneous expenses" alone, De Castro is asking for an increase of P50 million. One of the very first things he asked for is P2.4 million to buy an "official vehicle" for his use. Whatever happened to President Macapagal-Arroyo's order not to buy luxury cars and to sell all that are already bought? De Castro also asked for a P5 million transportation allowance.

Former Sen. Loren Legarda did some quick arithmetic. "If you divide P5 million by 365 days," she said, "that means Noli will have a transportation allowance of P13,698 for each and every day of 2006, counting weekends and holidays."

Ano ba naman kabayan?

Attempted break-in at my UP office

PASSION FOR REASON

Raul C. Pangalangan

ON WEDNESDAY MORNING, OUR STAFF AT the UP College of Law called me to report that there was an attempted break-in into my faculty room at Malcolm Hall. We immediately called the UP police, who found the doorknob broken—the inner core containing the keyhole was on the floor, while the outside knob was "hung" back in place so that you wouldn't notice that it was already detached. In the adjacent classroom was a broken hammerhead. Clearly, someone had tried forcibly to open the door.

I am not given to conspiratorial theories, and I hope you do not think I'm paranoid. But there is nothing worth stealing from a teacher's office, at any rate, nothing easily cartable or of commercial value. Just books, books, books—boring law books with no pictures, just long words and long sentences.

One of the police investigators rather innocently suggested that maybe a law student wanted to break in to "steal his grade." How I wished life were so simple. Apart from the fact that grades are not "stolen" that way and my students, though grade-conscious, are not grade-obsessed, the break-in comes after a week of daily newspaper attacks—fed by an eager Palace loyalist—containing nasty insinuations against me. I would be sticking my head into the sand if I pretend that there is no link between the bullying in the press and the unwelcome intrusion into my personal space.

At the same time, I had always felt that in our country, simple scholars simply do not count in the big games played by the political behemoths. Professors rarely merit their attention because our culture is attuned to the language of power and is indifferent to the power of ideas.

Three things I want to say to whoever attempted to enter my faculty room. One, these acts of intimidation do not work. Just look at the lessons from the dark days of martial rule. Someone tried to suppress the ugly truths then, and bamboozled those who dared to speak, but truth has its own stubbornness and finds new voices to take the place of those that had been stilled. There is an inexorability to it all, and we mortals—the intimidator and as well as his targets—are puny in the face of history. You will have to break down far too many locks and too many doors to stem the tide, and in the end realize, in the wisdom of the ancients, that you have merely "created a desolation and called it peace."

Two, I actually hesitated to write about the attempted break-in, because perhaps that is exactly what you wanted me to do. Constitutional law calls it the "chilling effect" on freedom of speech, a term first used academically by Harvard law professor and US Solicitor General Paul Freund in 1951, and judicially by the libertarian Justice William Brennan in a 1965 case (about a federal law that required postal patrons receiving "communist political propaganda" to specifically authorize the delivery of each such piece of mail). This was a roundabout way of censoring speech, an indirect burden on expressive liberty.

"Chilling effect" works through self-censorship by potential speakers who are thus hushed into silence. This would fit into the preferred fashion of the times. The Senate is too independent for comfort? Executive Order 464 purports to regulate all executive officers who appear in congressional hearings, but the effect was a boycott by government men. You want to stop protest rallies? First, announce a "no permit, no rally" policy, and then stop issuing permits. And, twice already, faced with armed threats, don't declare martial law (which is subject to automatic congressional review) but just call it a "state of rebellion" (an "utter superfluity but with emotional effects," said the high court).

Three, about the position that I have taken on the Gloriagate tapes before the joint hearings of Congress and that of the UP Law Center specialists on the NorthRail contract being examined by the Senate. These were not political positions taken by partisans who are loyal to personalities. These are legal analyses made on the basis of documents referred to UP by government offices whom it is mandated to serve.

Indeed, particularly in the case of the NorthRail contract, the Law Center first issued an opinion on the matter several months ago, way ahead of this overheated political season. The most recent opinion affirmed those findings and concluded that the $400 million project failed to meet the public bidding requirement under Republic Act 9184, the constitutional requirement of prior concurrence by the Monetary Board, and the Government Auditing Code requirement of certification of the availability of funds. These were the conclusions of independent-minded lawyers who cannot be arm-twisted to tailor their conclusions to suit political agenda.

I hadn't planned on writing about this. I had planned to use other, more cheerful topics lined up for this week. But this is the only way I can reach you—whoever you are—who wanted to send me a message by breaking into my faculty office. You work by stealth, but I work in a university that prefers open debate. You hide behind the cloak of anonymity, but I as a professor, must sign my name to my writings and be held to answer for what I say. You work by attacking the bearers of the "thought you hate," but I am a mere teacher whose job is to incubate ideas before their time has come and, since apparently you hearken only the voice of power, believe me: "There is nothing more powerful than an idea whose time has come."

* * *

Comments to passionforreason@gmail.com

Solidarity fatigue

COMMENTARY

Marcin Król

DEMOCRACY TARNISHES ITS HEROES AS surely as revolutions devour their children. For 25 years, the leaders of Solidarity personified the qualities needed to win Poland's struggle for democracy: unbending courage in the face of the communist Leviathan, and magnanimity and clear-sighted determination during the transfer of power. All of these were great and noble qualities; but they now seem utterly superfluous to most Poles.

That is the sad lesson of Poland's parliamentary election two weeks ago, and of Sunday's indecisive presidential election (which will be decided by a run-off between Donald Tusk and Lech Kaczynski on October 23rd). To be sure, the communists-cum-postcommunists who have dominated Polish politics since 1989 were utterly repudiated—the Left got scarcely 11 percent of the vote in the parliamentary poll. But Solidarity's old guard has also been cast aside. Poland yearns for something new.

Poland's recent elections were the first in which the postcommunist Left was irrelevant. The postcommunists know that they can no longer live off their legacy of organization and discipline, so they have chosen a clever and attractive 34-year-old leader. He has nothing to do with the communist era and has sacked all former Party members from important positions, even barring former Prime Minister Leszek Miller from standing for parliament.

This is undoubtedly all to the good. But the overall health of Polish democracy is another matter. Turnout for the parliamentary election was 40 percent, which puts Poland near the bottom in voter participation among the democratic nations of the world, and about 25-30 percent below the European average.

Political apathy reflects many factors, but two stand out. A few days before the parliamentary election, people were asked if they hoped for a better life. An astounding 60 percent said that they do not. Hopeless people do not vote.

Second, clear and sufficiently distinct party political programs are among the necessary conditions of a functioning democracy. That is not the case in Poland. The parties' programs changed with the public opinion polls, and their economic proposals were either too complicated or too muddled for voters to grasp. So the 40 percent who voted did so for emotional reasons, not as a clear political choice.

Among the leading politicians of the parties that overwhelmingly won the parliamentary elections—the neo-liberal Civic Platform and the conservative-populist Law and Justice—have been around since 1989. So the members of the new government, although not physically old, are politically geriatric. The Solidarity/postcommunist divide seems to have pickled Polish politics, leaving it without a new generation of leaders, and thus without enthusiasm.

Not surprisingly, the young are the most estranged. When I asked my students at Warsaw University how many intended to vote, only two raised their hands. Perhaps, others were just ashamed to say they care about politics and did, in fact, vote; but they can't have been many. An entire generation has grown up to be apolitical, even anti-political, which bodes ill for the future.

The most difficult problems in Poland are unemployment, which hovers around 20 percent—the highest rate in the EU—and the growing divide between rich and poor. Indeed, only in Russia (and perhaps in Ukraine) is the income gap wider. Yet neither of these issues was raised decisively in the campaign. The main issues that both victorious parties highlighted were the communist past and public corruption.

Both are important issues, but they are secondary to the problems of joblessness and poverty. Indeed, it is estimated that 30 percent of Polish children do not get enough to eat. This is Europe, so they do not die of hunger. But that a third of all children in a member country of the European Union live on one meal a day is a source of shame—and thus should also be a primary political issue.

This is all the more peculiar given that the victorious parties that emerged out of Solidarity are keen to promote its values, particularly "solidarity" with a small "s." But their purpose is purely instrumental, for to call somebody a "liberal" nowadays in Poland is more pejorative than calling him a "s__ of a b___."

Indeed, "liberal" in both its meanings—economic and moral—is disdained. Liberals are viewed as vampires, seeking only to make money for themselves and their cronies. So it is understandable that both leading presidential candidates, Donald Tusk and Lech Kaczynski, ran as fast as they could from "liberal" ideas.

But what does "small-s solidarity" mean in practical terms? Nobody knows, and neither does Tusk nor Kaczynski. They suggested only some vague notions of state intervention on behalf of the poor and needy.

The death of postcommunism in Poland has thus been greeted not with a bang but with a whimper. There is nothing devastating in this, of course, but Poland's political malaise may one day prove dangerous, and so should be scrutinized in other democracies, old and new. For the problems of anomie, apathy, and political charade are not Polish problems, but maladies that increasingly afflict democracies everywhere, and that urgently call for a restoring of faith in parties and politics. *Project Syndicate*

Marcin Król is dean of history at Warsaw University and he holds its Erasmus chair; he is also the publisher of Res Publica, Poland's leading intellectual journal.

Generics again

PINOY KASI

Michael L. Tan

IT'S BEEN 17 YEARS SINCE THE PHILIPPINES PASSED THE Generics Act, a comprehensive law that required the use of generic names in the labeling, prescribing and dispensing of medicines.

The law is still hailed today internationally as an example of progressive health legislation; yet it has been opposed every step of the way, from the time it was filed to the present, by the Philippine Medical Association and the multinational drug companies, with much black propaganda and misinformation. Even today, the opposition is still strong, preventing the law from being implemented to its fullest so consumers can benefit.

'Lang'

More and more, physicians neglect the generic names in their prescriptions, forcing their patients to buy the brand name the physician prefers. Likewise, drugstores don't always inform consumers about the possible choices. Sadly, too, government has concentrated on parallel imports to bring in some lower costing branded preparations, while the generic drug industry—which is largely Filipino-owned—languishes.

But I also see some hopeful signs around generics. At the South Star pharmacy I've been going to, the sales clerks ask, whenever I present a prescription, "Sir, generics *lang*?" Mercury doesn't do that, although they have, as with South Star, a thick computer print-out listing drugs by their generic name and their equivalent brand names.

Ultimately though, it's still an informed consumer that will make the difference. In one Save-More drug outlet, while waiting for my prescription to be filled, a man came in and rattled off three different drugs by their generic names. He was empathic in adding, after he had finished naming the medicines: "Generics *lang*." Sadly, the sales clerks said they didn't have generic versions for the two of the medicines he needed.

Nevertheless, I was impressed that the man was aware of generics. Maybe he was a health professional, but I suspect he was simply an informed consumer. And we need more of such consumers to spur the demand for generics.

The Department of Health needs to revive the campaign around generics, and for starters, we could get prescribers, sales clerks and consumers to stop saying "generics *lang* (generics only)" and be more assertive: "Generics *ang gusto ko* (I want generics)."

What's in a name

OK, I know I might be jumping way ahead, and that there may be readers who still haven't figured out what generics are. All drugs have a generic name which is internationally recognized. For example, there's propranolol, a medicine used for high blood pressure. There are all kinds of brand names for propranolol, but no matter where you are in the world, if you go into a drugstore and write out propranolol or point it out on your medicine wrapper, they'll know what you need.

In many countries, even without a generics law, they will give you different brand names to choose from, including medicines produced without a brand, meaning sold simply by their generic name. The generic version is almost always cheaper than the branded ones. How cheap? In Thailand, you can get propranolol 40 mg for as low as P1.50 each, while in the Philippines, sold under the brand name Inderal, you'd pay P12.50 each. The friendly clerks, whether in Bangkok or in Manila, will also tell you what other brand names are available, many still cheaper than the multinationals' branded products.

What's in a (generic) name? A lot, in terms of money saved.

Ah, but now we have to deal with the black propaganda, the claims from manufacturers of branded products that generic drugs are inferior, or even "faked." This is nonsense. Counterfeiters aren't going to try to imitate generics because they cost so little; what they go for are the most expensive branded preparations. I'd be more worried about counterfeit drugs when getting branded products.

The counterfeiting issue also obscures the point that all drugs—branded or generics—need to be approved by a country's drug regulatory agency, in our case the Bureau of Food and Drugs, which doesn't just look at the medicines but actually inspects the manufacturing and packaging facilities to make sure they observe what are called GMP or Good Manufacturing Practices. As Dr. Bengzon pointed out in a recent talk, substandard drugs have been found even among the large multinational companies' branded preparations.

Informed use

There's more to the safety issue than quality control in manufacturing. A knowledge of generic names is the foundation for informed use of medicines. A few years ago, my mother had a household helper who suffered a severe allergic reaction to the pain killer Alaxan. The helper was perplexed, saying that she had taken Alaxan in the past without problems. I had to explain to her that the drug had recently been reformulated and now had an ingredient to which she was allergic. Of course, there was no way for her to know that because her loyalty was to the brand name, with little knowledge about the generic names of the active ingredients.

Always check for the generic names of active ingredients in a new medicine you're taking. You might discover that you're taking needless duplicates. For example, my mother recently wanted to start taking Circulan, but when I looked at its ingredients, I pointed out she was already taking two of the three drugs listed, under other brand names.

Many of the so-called "natural products" are also problematic with their brand name hype. To protect yourself, learn to look at the labels. I've found many Chinese products will mix medicinal plants and very potent western medicine such as steroids and sedatives. Without a knowledge of generic names, you won't be able to find this out.

Another tip here: generic names are a bit like surnames. Drugs with common stem endings are "related": for example, ibuprofen and ketprofen, or propanolol and atenolol. If you have problems with one of them, you need to check with a health professional if you can take the other "cousins."

Drug safety is really drug economics as well. A lack of knowledge about our medicines, sometimes linked to our ignorance about generics, could mean wastage in terms of inappropriate medicines or, worse, adverse reactions to the medicines.

There are all kinds of books and Internet websites with valuable information on the use of medicines. But to be able to maximize the value of these resources, you have to know your medicines' generic names. In many countries, you'd be lucky if the medicine's ingredients are even listed. In others, including the United States, the generic names are found in small print. In the Philippines, we're lucky that the law requires it to be in big bold letters, in a box on top of the brand name.

Women, rights and peace

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

AN AVERAGE OF 20 CASES OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN are reported every day in this country, lawyer Evelyn Dunuan of the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women said Wednesday. That would mean that in almost every hour of every day, there is a Filipina who is being raped, assaulted, sexually harassed, beaten up, molested, exploited and prostituted.

The condition of Filipino women is only in line with that of the rest of "womanity" around the globe, as the annual "State of the World Population" (SWP) report of the UN Population Fund reveals.

As the report states: "Gender-based violence is perhaps the most widespread and socially tolerated (of) human rights violations." Violence, the same report added, "kills and disables as many women between the ages of 15 and 44 as cancer."

As the headline of the story on the SWP Report states, women's conditions around the world indeed paint a "grim picture." But it is "grim" only because few governments choose to take the situation of women seriously, or at least seriously enough to warrant concrete and determined action.

In the Philippines, admittedly, both government and society have gone a long way in addressing the inequalities between men and women; and in moving to prevent the further growth and spread of all forms of violence against women. Still, despite the progress that has been made, women continue to face daunting obstacles in their march for equality and autonomy, most notably in their struggle for sexual and reproductive health and rights.

* * *

UNFPA executive director Thoraya Obaid made this important link between human rights and sexual and reproductive rights when she stressed the need to "free women of the discrimination, violence and poor health they face in their daily lives."

The report said that with some 529,000 women dying each year from pregnancy-related causes, "it was important for government to implement sound reproductive health policies."

How sound are the policies of the Philippine government, particularly the Arroyo government? Recall that in the recent Summit in the UN to review progress in achieving the Millennium Development Goals, Ms Arroyo explicitly declared that her government would pursue a family planning program based on a single method: natural family planning. On the question of both rights and health, this does not bode well for Filipino women.

* * *

OPENING in Zurich today is the exhibit "1,000 PeaceWomen Across the Globe," which features the faces and life stories of a thousand women, including 27 Filipinas, who were jointly nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize this year, as a way of focusing global attention on the work that women have done and are doing toward lasting peace.

As many may know by now, this year's Nobel Peace Prize has gone to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and its Director General Mohamed El Baradei.

"Of course, we are disappointed, as we had hoped very much that the 1,000 women would be recognized for their untiring and courageous work in the cause of peace," said Ruth-Gaby Vermot-Mangold, the Swiss parliamentarian who initiated the search and nomination of "1,000 PeaceWomen." "But we are also proud that within less than three years we have brought attention to the outstanding work done by these women in the cause of promoting peace."

Last January, 1,000 women (representative of many thousands of such women) from more than 150 countries were nominated all together for the Nobel Peace Prize. The women, said the organizers of the search, "commit themselves worldwide to working for more human security and justice. They rebuild what has been destroyed, they mediate in conflicts between enemies, and they fight poverty. They step in for access to land and clean water, they defend human rights and denounce every sort of child abuse. They create alternative sources of income, they care for people living with HIV/AIDS and take care of their children. They organize vigils and they document the atrocities of war."

"It's a pity. The Nobel Peace Prize for the 1,000 women would have been a compelling symbol of peace politics—of which the world is sorely in need!" said politician Monika Stocker, vice president of the project.

Despite the non-recognition, though, organizers said important goals of the project have been achieved, including the establishment of country and regional networks.

Aside from the exhibit, a book on the 1,000 PeaceWomen will be published in November, with more detailed stories and accounts of the work the women have done for peace. A group of academics will also be analyzing the strategies, methods and results of these women's work, with the conclusions sent for feedback to governments and civil society organizations "as it is important to draw lessons from these women's work."

* * *

IN THE PHILIPPINES, reported Karen Tañada of the GZO Peace Institute (who, with Paulynn Sicam conducted the search for Filipino PeaceWomen), the work of peace-building and networking among the 27 Filipina nominees continues. The organizers plan to gather the 25 women (minus Haydee Yorac who recently passed away and Sr. Mariani Dimaranan who is bedridden) for some reflection and planning on what they can do next as a group.

With some funding support, the organizers said, they also hope to conduct forums on women and peace work in the Visayas and Mindanao. So even if the Nobel Peace Prize eluded them, the search would at least have widened the network of women working for peace in this country, and deepened their knowledge and experience.

"It seems the struggle for the recognition of women is as arduous and painstaking as the struggle for peace," commented Tañada. "But in each other, we will continue to find courage, strength and joy."

'Benabays of Waterlilies'

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo

ANOTHER AUCTION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN pictures was held in Sotheby's Singapore last Sunday. The works of National Artists Fernando Amorsolo, Ang Kiukok, Hernando Ocampo and Arturo Luz went on the block. The realized sales fell within the estimated price range. The Philippine lot—this also included works done from the time of 19th-century master Felix Resurreccion Hidalgo to young contemporary artists Marcel Antonio and Geraldine Javier—was interesting but fell short of being exciting. Only a 1979 painting of fish by Ang Kiukok moved me. Amorsolos, already dime a dozen at auctions, were all done past his prime in the 1950s. The Hidalgo, a small insignificant landscape, and three early works by Romeo Tabuena looked like tourist art.

Rival auction house Christie's has a small but finer selection up for auction in Hong Kong next month. This includes early works of Bencab and Luz; reliable sources describe these as paintings "to die for."

Auction catalogues are indicators of changing tastes and also gives you a feel of the art market in the region, although what sells and what is good don't always come hand in hand. I was drawn to some works by Miguel Covarrubias (1904-1957) because I thought, at first, that he was some unknown Filipino artist, he turned out to be Mexican and lived in Bali before the war. He illustrated books by Pearl S. Buck and Marc Chadourne. These two names rang a bell because there is a Pearl S. Buck foundation in a dingy building in Ermita, and Chadourne published a travelogue "Extreme Orient" in 1935 that had a section on the Philippines. I found a copy of Chadourne in the great Paris flea market Clignancourt two decades ago and, at the time when my French was still current, I did a rough translation of a chapter on the Benabays [Binabae] of Waterlilies:

"Rafael, a young mestizo, is my benevolent guide and friend. With him I discovered the best, as well as the worst, that Manila has to offer, like the time we encountered the benabays of 'Waterlilies.'

"We bathed in the phosphorescent sea in Cavite Bay where the water was warm like living liquid rolling under the interminable arch of the palm trees. While traveling, my companion was slowed down by the allure of the cabarets, their red lights and entrances with green leaves. [In one place] we espied moving forms, whispering voices near the hedge of a seeming cloister.

"*Dos pesos, señor,* for short time.

"Behind the palisades and the Chesterfield billboards were bamboo huts which offered a clandestine asylum...At the entrance of this obscure alley, a sign reads, 'Waterlilies.' We are tempted to go in regardless of the large, sinister, wooden house at the end of the enclosure.

"A low voice beckons from the shadows. During these few seconds our hearts beat faster as we anticipate the sight of these small Oceaniennes [did he mean Filipinas?]. We imagine them walking past us one by one, a bit sunburned.

"Dressed in white dresses they go into the trees. Over the branches, leaves and roots of a banyan tree, the moon shines on their muslin [clothing], and not their figures. There are five, perhaps six, who run and assault the car. Three of them stretch their arms to snap at our jackets.

"*Anda conmigo, muchacho*...come along sweetheart.

"Sweet voices, very sweet, feline, very suave. Not bad. From whence come these sirens?

"Then I heard a hoarse and sneering intonation which was near masculine, so we were put on the alert. A small necklace of the fragrant ylang-ylang passed my nose, waved by the bony fingers of a hand, a large hand that strokes me slightly on the neck and starts to envelop my shoulder. I can't see the strange contour of the head that approaches. It was long-headed and covered with a mop of hair, a bonnet of black horsehair like a horse's mane and tail. With their gesticulations and twists they seemed like great apes falling from the trees.

"'Gosh,' Rafael growled, 'We fell in the house of the benabays!' The motor of the car whined with a scared anger, which heightened my friend's panic. The benabays came between us and the exit. They made sweet calls and and giggles, which sounded like the high-pitched voices of castrates. They encircled the car, imprisoning us. The car wouldn't budge, its wheels stuck in the sand. Then a horse-like figure the color of a cigar comes out of the blue and I see a fixed angular Malay gaze.

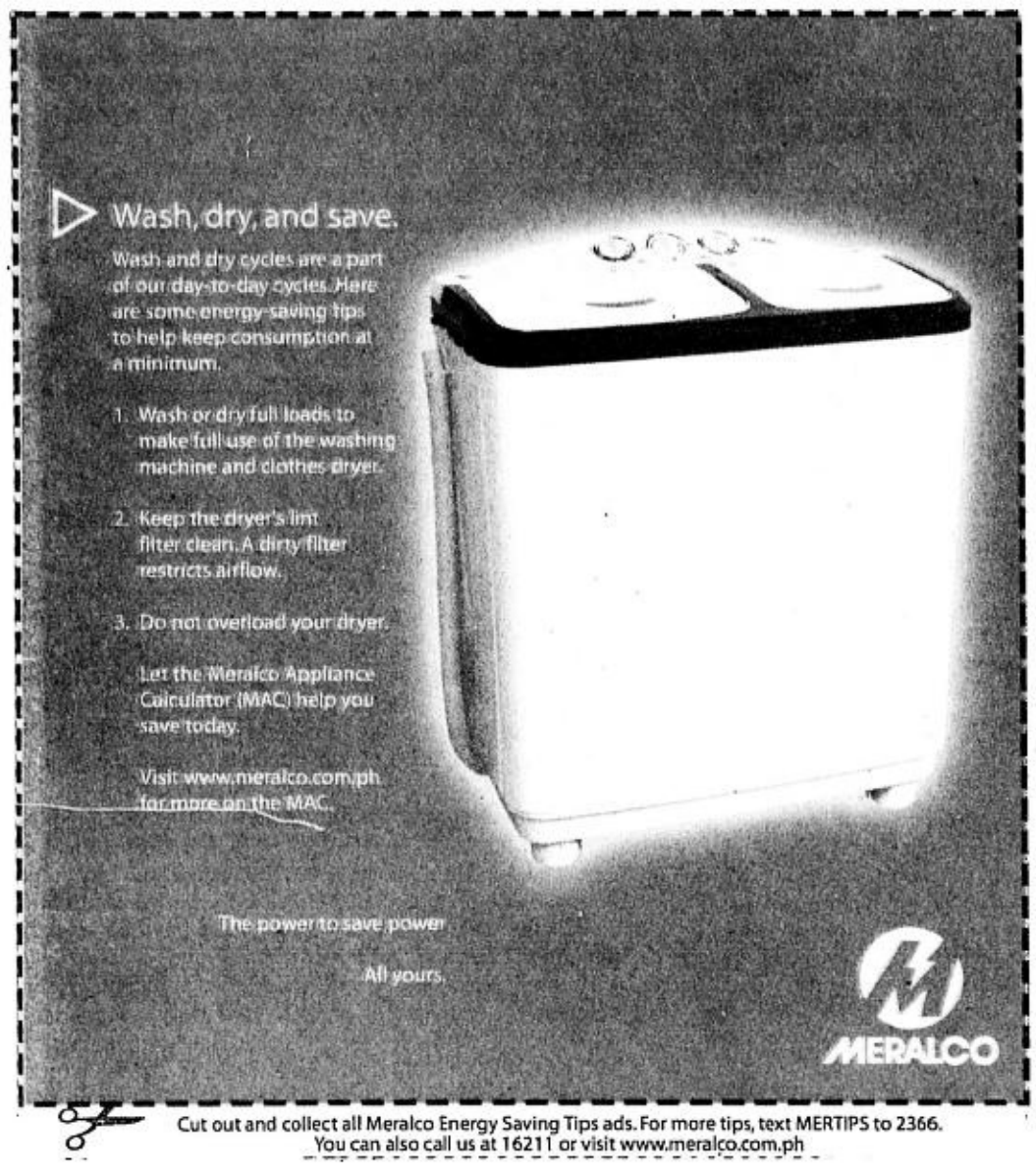
"It's a man! Aquiline, near handsome, he has a full chest, the cleavage of a woman that you often see through a dress, but his teeth and gums are black due to betel chewing. Yuk! He laughs but it later turns to an anguished cry when the car starts to move. We rush out of the place.

"Later I wonder, were they really men? Maybe they were just ugly women? Rafael says the poor things were probably driven out of their barrios by society and so they took refuge in this abandoned cabaret. We get back to the road and look back at these poor hermaphrodites who were ostracized from society like lepers."

Was this a pre-war transvestite bar? Was it located in Cavite? Did Chadourne make all this up to spice up his book? More research will fill in the gaps in this footnote to the yet unwritten history of prostitution in the Philippines. In the meantime, I should accept the offer of newly arrived Alliance Française director Olivier Dintinger to polish my rusty French.

* * *

Comments are welcome at aocampo@ateneo.edu



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Nothing but calibrated brutality

LETTERS TO THE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

THE SOUND OF IT GRATES MY nerves, like fingernails scraping against the surface of a blackboard—this so-called calibrated preemptive response, which simply means a ban. A ban on politicking crooks would have been better, except that Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo should have to ban herself first. But Ms Arroyo, the PR fanatic that she is, will never take such a risk. So she issues instead a ban on the the exercise of basic rights—all clearly spelled out in the Bill of Rights of the Philippine Constitution—specifically the right to peaceably assemble.

Ms Arroyo has perfect timing. Her CPR policy was declared on the very day—Sept. 21—that the nation was reminding itself of the evils of martial law declared 33 years ago, and of the thousands of Filipino martyrs who died fighting against it despite the odds.

I am appalled at how Ms Arroyo takes "refuge" in the "rule of law" when her administration has been shaken by numerous scandals arising from violations of law committed by her or by people close to her; and at how she twists the same "rule of law" to protect her personal interests.

Sure, my parents warned me as a child what a jungle this world is, but it still shocks me to realize the kind of animals we have in the government. I mean if they are the best we can have, what does this say about us?

News reports have shown us just what the CPR really is: protesters being hit with truncheons and bodily dragged and beaten up and dispersed like stray cats. There is nothing calibrated in that kind of response—policemen swinging their truncheons left and right, hitting anyone who happens to be in sight, ganging up on unarmed people; I only see brutality there.

What the CPR clearly wants to convey is that "might is right" and that he who holds the truncheon and the gun (whether in uniform or not) has the right to exercise his brand of "rule of law." I am afraid, Ms Arroyo is beginning to refer to herself as the law.

But Ms Arroyo should have seen this coming—that street protests were bound to escalate after the House of Representatives murdered the impeachment case against her.

If there is a grain of truth to her much-avowed desire to reconcile this nation and heal its wounds, she must now accept that her presence in Malacañang is the main reason why people are swarming in the streets.

History is the best teacher, although not a very compassionate one. Ms Arroyo should know that instruments like the CPR have been shown to be the best recruiters of protesters.

—JULI DETABLAN,
Ortigas Center, Pasig City,
hooleyjooley@yahoo.com

Animals are not for zoos; let them roam the wilderness

While we, at People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (Peta), are glad that society now celebrates Animal Day, we believe that the best way to honor animals is by taking their best interests into consideration. Sadly, zoos rarely do.

Elephants, primates, tigers and other animals kept in zoos suffer from extreme loneliness, boredom and frustration because they are locked in small enclosures, year after year, far from their natural homes. Many animals develop abnormal self-destructive behaviors, called "zoochosis," from these conditions. When baby animals born at zoos grow up, they are often sold to poorly run roadside zoos or "game" farms where hunters pay to kill them.

Instead of being treated like prisoners, these animals should be in their natural habitat, exploring, seeking mates and raising families. Let's give animals something to celebrate on Animal Day by never patronizing zoos and encouraging everyone we know to do the same. Visit WildlifePimps.com to learn more.

—DAN ABRIL,
Philippine representative,
Peta Asia-Pacific,
DanA@peta.org

Prisoner of conscience

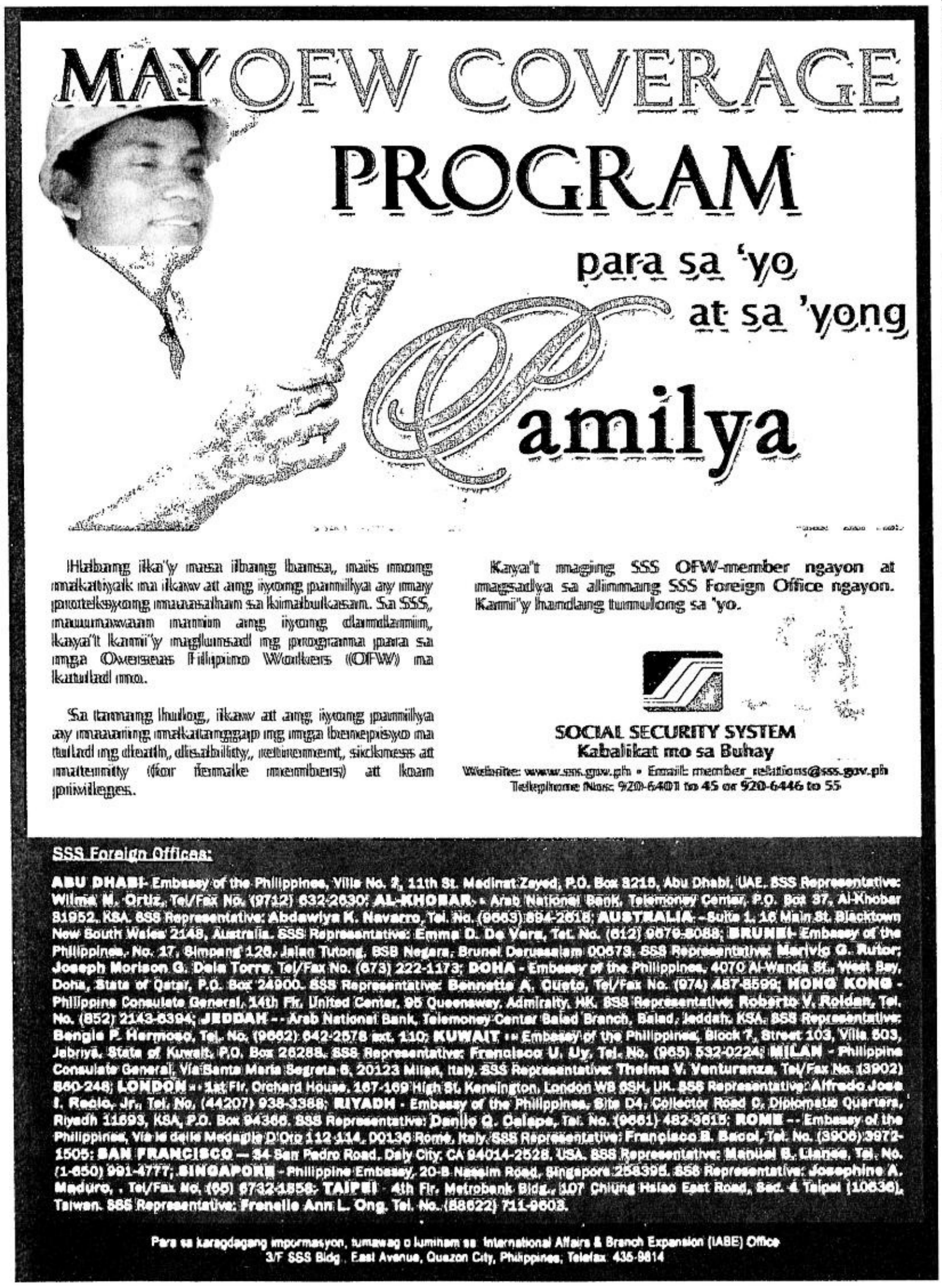
I WROTE TO THE INQUIRER LAST year about a prisoner of conscience in Burma (Myanmar), a certain U Win Tin. He is a prominent journalist who was imprisoned 15 years ago just because he expressed political views contrary to those of the government.

Burma was to chair next year's Asean meetings, but its government preferred to forfeit this honor rather than stop violating human rights within Burma.

There is very little we can do as individuals. But as the Philippine government is to chair Asean next year, the INQUIRER could raise this issue with its readers and thus put pressure on the Philippine government to challenge Burma about its human rights violations.

Even if Burma is not willing to stop violating human rights, I suggest that U Win Tin be released on humanitarian grounds, as his health is very poor.

—DIETER TIEMAN,
49 Pueblo St.,
Copacabana 2251, Australia



On how to move on

The global Filipino debate on Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo has begun to bring up concrete suggestions on how to get the country out of the hole it continues to be mired in. Here are some:

INSTEAD OF WAITING FOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO THINK of ways to improve our lives, let's just help each other. We, ordinary Filipinos, who are not obsessed with power and wealth, can think of better ways to give our less privileged countrymen more opportunities to improve their living conditions.—**Marian Gratia Medalla, marian_gratia@yahoo.com**

VOICES ON INQ7.NET

* * *

Please, don't let the disruptive politicians decide the future of the Philippines. [It] seems they're all blinded by money and power. [Filipino] residents and citizens of America still love the Philippines; in their ranks are knowledgeable Filipinos, degree holders, the best employees in the United States, the most industrious and closest to God Almighty, Jesus and Mother Mary.—**Tim Allio, timallio@sbcglobal.net**

* * *

Perhaps, this is the fate of a country run mostly by actors and lawyers instead of technocrats, scientists or businessmen. I wish to see the time where we can have leaders whose interest is in the economy, science and technology. That is the only way for the Philippines to become a globally respected country and get out of the political abyss.—**Mervin Nicolas, Pleasanton, CA 94566**

* * *

I agree with Sen. Ralph Recto: What the country needs now are doctors and nurses that will serve the public because of the rising cost of hospitalization, which the poor cannot afford. The government needs to create scholarships for aspiring doctors, especially from among the poor.

The "Philippine Medical Doctors Academy," fully subsidized by the government, and whose graduates would be required to serve the public for a period of at least 10 years, would be the answer to the country's shortage in medical practitioners. After that, the graduates could choose to go to private practice or to stay in government service.—**Reginald Rosales, Santa Cruz Street, Poblacion 3, Bauan, Batangas**

* * *

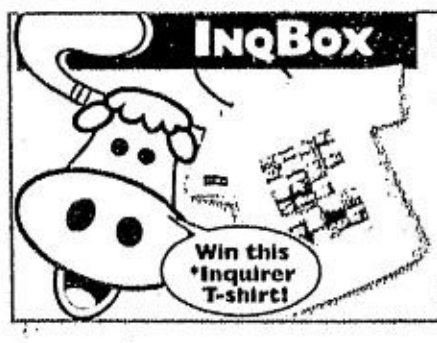
If Gloria is genuinely spiritual and religious, she should heed this advice: It is better that the truth be known than the scandal be kept hidden.—**Romy de la Paz, vvvision@lava.net**

* * *

It is so convenient to be a Catholic in the Philippines: no commitment, no obligation. Catholicism tolerates double standard. I remember one columnist saying: "How can Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, who claims to go to Mass every day, cheat in the election?" My answer is simple. I am sure she will just say, "*Politika lang 'yan* [It's only politics]"—totally separate from her religious beliefs.

Before we can hope for a better government and system, we will have to change the Filipino mind. Is that possible? It will be difficult and it will take a very long time, certainly not in my generation.

Some time ago in a TV program, Hilarion Henares said: "I am trying very hard to live a very good life, because if ever there really is a reincarnation, I would not like to come back as a Filipino."—**Rod Estrella, 3117 Baltusrol Terrace, Ashburn, Virginia 20147 USA**



Question of the Week
Your message to the 4 Filipino boxing champions: Brian Viloria, Rey " Boom Boom " Bautista, Bobby Pacquiao and Manny Pacquiao?
Texters hus messages R printd in Tuesday's INQBOX *wiL each receiv an 'Inquirer t-shirt!* Ü
Key in: inquirer news name/city/message.
Text your answers to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart).
(Limited to 150 characters)
'Metro Manila winners can call Cindy at 897-8808 loc. 218. Provincial winners can text inquirer news name/mailing address to 2207 or 283

COL JUSTINO A. PADIERNOS
Chairman

STATEMENT OF LOYALTY AND SUPPORT FOR PRESIDENT GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

LT. GEN ROMEO A. PADIERNOS
President

The AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (APDC) is a stock corporation incorporated in 2002 by retired officers of the Armed Forces and the Police who believe that the fight against insurgency can be won through the stomach and not through the barrel of the gun.

APDC has a comprehensive economic program, fully funded from foreign sources, that will create 6,000,000 jobs and develop 2,000,000 hectares of land into profitable agricultural business, thus, achieving national rice self-sufficiency in three years.

APDC has identified, and has prescribed solutions to, the three major problems that are causing the farmers' misery and their exclusion from the national economy, to wit: (1) the lack of low-cost credits to finance production inputs; (2) the non-availability of commercial grain dryer systems; and (3) the low and unstable price of palay.

APDC has a system of rice intensification to increase farm productivity and to convert the dividends of that productivity to life insurance, health care and social security benefits for the farmers and their families.

APDC has adhered to the doctrine that tax exemptions and tax holidays in business militates to be counter-productive and counter-developmental. APDC, therefore, is committed to pay all taxes that are incidental and necessary to doing business.

IN SUMMARY:

APDC's reforms are evolutionary, not revolutionary. Reforms are centered on changes that would increase the farmers' productivity and profitablity.

This private sector's initiative in the countryside has earned the full support of the ARROYO ADMINISTRATION.

RECENT POLITICAL EVENTS HAVE COMPELLED THE APDC TO STATE ITS POSITION ON THE MATTER IN ORDER TO ASSURE THE PEOPLE OF THE PHILIPPINES OF THE SUCCESS OF APDC'S BUSINESS OBJECTIVES:

APDC is the extension of the economic development program of PRESIDENT GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO.

APDC is opposed to non-productive expenditures of the national resources, specially during this critical economic times, that includes the unrelenting and wasteful demonstrations in the streets.

APDC is opposed to the misdirected efforts of some retired officers of the Armed Forces who have joined the destabilization of the duly constituted government of their Commander-in-Chief.

FINALLY, APDC is opposed to the removal of PRESIDENT GLORIA MACAPAGA-ARROYO before the end of her Constitutional mandate because to do so would result in irreparable loss of momentum and catastrophic damages in all the ongoing economic developmental projects, including that of this corporation.

PARTIAL LIST OF STOCKHOLDERS OF THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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BGEN MIGUEL C. ABAYA
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DDGEN JOSE PERCIVAL L. ADIONG
COMMO JOSE T. AGUDELO
COMMO CARLOS L. AGUSTIN
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COMMO. DANTE Q. DE GUZMAN
BGEN ISIDORO M. DE GUZMAN
BGEN FEDERICO R. DE JOYA
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BGEN ANDREW R. FRANCISCO
BGEN FELICIANO M. GACIS, JR.
BGEN PABLO V. GALVEZ
MGEN RENATO M. GARCIA
LTGEN RODOLFO G. GARCIA
BGEN ROMAN Q. GAVINO, JR.
BGEN ERNESTO S. GIDAYA
DDGEN VIRTUS V. GIL
BGEN ELADIO V. GONZALES
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MGEN REYNALDO P. GOPILAN
BGEN ISAURO C. GUIANG
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BGEN ELISEO J. JAVIER
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BGEN FRANCISCO JUCUTAN, JR.
BGEN ANGEL G. KANAPI
BGEN GALILEO C. KINTANAR
BGEN SERVANDO V. LARA
BGEN PROTACIO A. LAROYA
DIR RAYMUNDO L. LOGAN
BGEN PATERNO D. LOMONGO
BGEN PACIFICO L. DE LEON
BGEN ANTONIO B.LUKBAN
BGEN FROILAN M. MAGLAYA
BGEN FLORENCIO F. MAGSINO
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BGEN MADRIÑO C. MUÑOZ
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GMA asked to help docs get better pay

ILAGAN, ISABELA—PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARroyo should work hard to raise the basic pay and benefits of government doctors to discourage them from leaving the country, several government doctors in Cagayan Valley said.

Dr. Glenn Matthew Baggao, chief of the provincial government-run Faustino Dy Sr. Memorial Hospital here, said the national government has failed in improving the plight of government doctors and nurses.

"The best thing is to increase the salaries of doctors and this will definitely stop the exodus of doctors, many of whom work as nurses," he said.

"Doctors in the provinces are left to do charity work for patients. Many government doctors are actually serving due to their patriotism and sacrifice. But people have the right to seek financial growth, too," he said.

Baggao said at the provincial hospital alone, several doctors and nurses had resigned and had gone abroad to work as nurses.

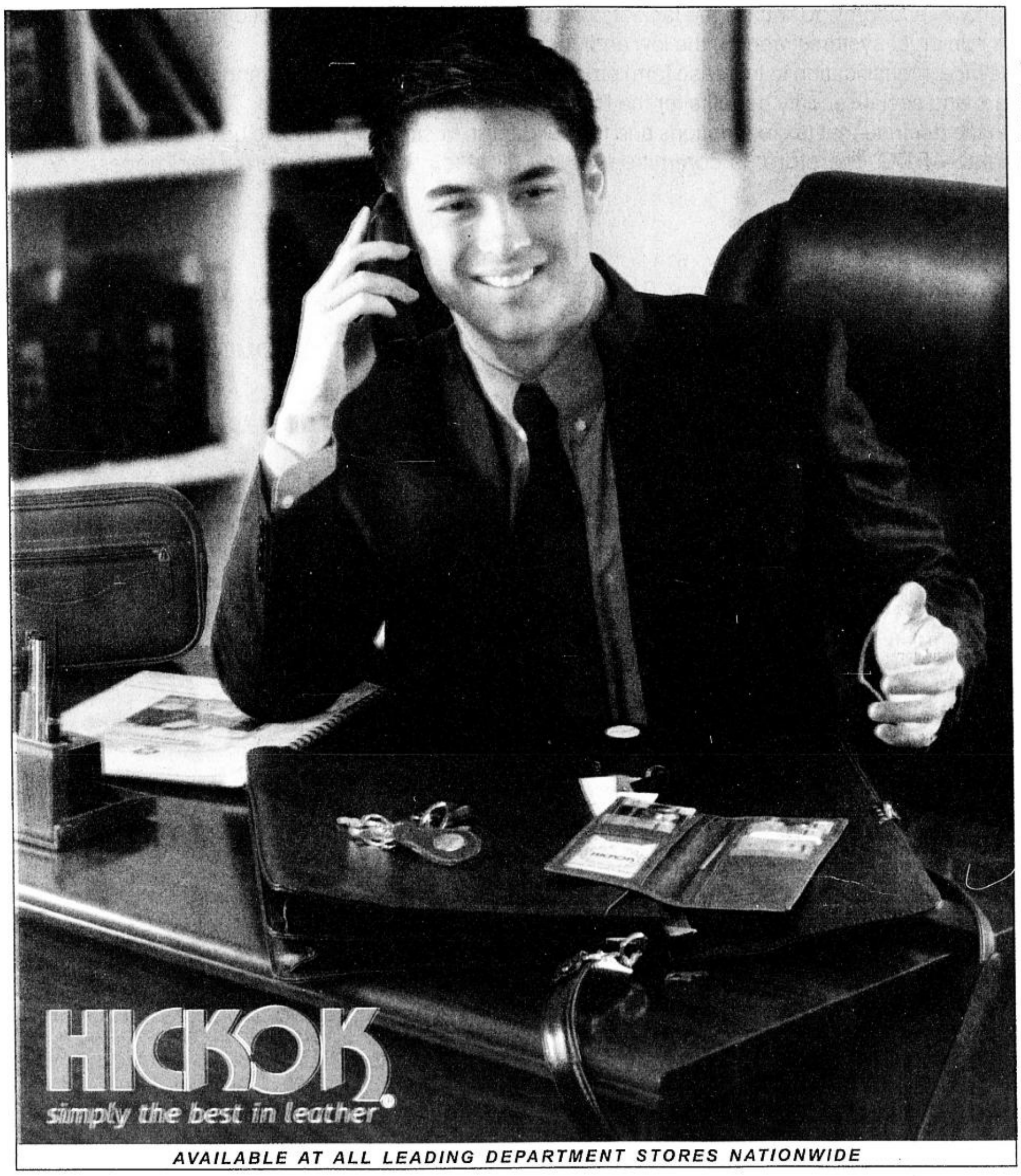
He said many government doctors had also availed of an early retirement plan to embark on a more lucrative private practice or to work abroad.

From about 60 government doctors in the past two years, the province now has only 28 doctors, he said.

"A lowest paid doctor receives P15,000 gross pay and the highest paid gets P22,000 a month. How can you sustain a family if you are burdened with loans and there is nothing left to take home?" Baggao asked.

He said the provincial government had also stopped giving the P10,000 allowance for doctors due to fund shortage.

"This is a wake up call for the national government. The country is behind in terms of the compensation package for health workers in other countries. Who can't resist the P150,000 to P300,000 salary offered in other countries when you receive an average salary of P25,000 here?" he said. *Villamor Visaya Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*



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ROUNDUP

'Strike-free' Bicol

LEGAZPI CITY—The Bicol region has not experienced labor strikes for the past three years, according to the Regional Coordinating Council (RCC) and the Department of Labor and Employment regional office here. The RCC said Bicol's labor front was relatively "peaceful." "So far, the existing labor unions here are comfortable with their collective bargaining agreements (CBAs). However, we should be vigilant in monitoring the situation," labor Bicol regional director Alex Maraan said. At least 15 labor-management conflicts had been resolved in the second quarter of the year. Most of the conflicts emanated from wage hike proposals made during CBA negotiations, Maraan said. *Leo Martin Ganace, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Counterfeit gang nabbed

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Seven suspected members of a counterfeit money syndicate were arrested by policemen in Floridablanca, Pampanga on Monday. The suspects included an 18-year-old student and their alleged leader, Noelito de Ocampo, a resident of Caloocan City. Seized from the group were 96 pieces of fake P500 bills. Senior Supt. Leonardo Espina, Pampanga police chief, said the group, on board a Toyota Revo, was bound for either Bataan or Olongapo City and stopped to eat lunch and buy supplies in Floridablanca. A complaint from a store owner to whom a fake P500 bill was paid alerted the police about the group's presence in the town. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

13 climbers rescued

BAGUIO CITY—Thirteen university students, who went off for an adventure climb on Oct. 7 after their final examinations, were rescued by local authorities on Monday dawn after their families reported them missing. Most of the students of Data Center Philippines here were rescued from Sitio Larilang in Barangay Cabuyao in Tuba, Benguet, on Sunday night, despite thick fog and heavy rains at Mt. Sto. Tomas, said Vicente Tomazar, Cordillera director of the Office of Civil Defense. The rest were rescued at 3 a.m. on Monday. Tomazar said teams from the police, the rescue group BB-PICAG, the Philippine Military Academy and Tuba residents helped look for the students. *Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Garbage contract assailed

RODRIGUEZ, Rizal town Mayor Pedro Cuerpo criticized renewed efforts to revive a controversial P390 billion build-operate-transfer (BOT) garbage disposal contract for Metro Manila, saying the deal was "grossly flawed." Cuerpo echoed the strong opposition by Metro Manila mayors and Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) Chair Bayani Fernando to the deal, citing contract provisions that are allegedly "disadvantageous to the best interests" of Metro Manila residents. These included the absence of a suitable site for a large-scale sanitary landfill system, the lack of technological-know-how and track record of the firm that got the contract. "This grossly flawed contract ... should never be implemented. Instead, we should focus on the available technology of local contractors because we are more familiar with our own garbage problems," Cuerpo said in a press statement.

Feud of gov, vice gov turns into trade of raps

BATANGAS CITY—LAWYER FERdinand Topacio has accused Batangas Vice Gov. Ricky Recto of asking for "a monthly allowance of at least P1 million" from Gov. Armand Sanchez, whom the vice governor sued for graft at the Ombudsman.

In an affidavit, Topacio said that in one of their meetings, Recto allegedly asked Topacio to tell Sanchez to give him the amount monthly. Apart from this, Recto purportedly wanted the provincial government to buy him a new vehicle.

He said he gave a copy of his affidavit to Sanchez, his client and personal friend.

But Recto, in a telephone interview, said Topacio's allegation was "garbage."

"*Kalokohan yan*, Governor Sanchez is diverting the issue. The real question is, is Governor Sanchez corrupt, is he a gambling lord, did he rig the bidding in the capitol to favor his companies and relatives? Sanchez should first answer these charges."

Topacio, Sanchez's lawyer since he ran as mayor of Sto. Tomas town in 1998, said he told the governor "to just keep it (the affidavit) and use it for whatever purpose it may serve."

He said Sanchez gave a copy of the seven-page affidavit to journalists who attended a news conference that the governor arranged in Makati recently.

"When I told Sanchez about the demands of Recto, he refused to commit to the importuning of Recto," Topacio said.

He said Sanchez likewise turned down Recto's request for a new vehicle, saying it was inappropriate after the governor asked provincial officials to surrender their official vehicles as part of the province's austerity measures.

When he told Recto of Sanchez's decision, Topacio said the vice governor was "resentful."

He said Recto even told him that Sanchez "was richer than God and he could very well afford it."

Topacio said Recto was anxious that if Sanchez did not choose him as his running mate in 2007, he had no choice but to run for Congress.

Topacio said Recto told him that he needed money for the repair of the vice governor's office.

He said in several other meetings that followed, Recto continued to ask why Sanchez refused to give him a monthly allowance despite his willingness "to play ball" with the governor.

Topacio said that when the squabble between Recto and the members of the provincial board grew earlier this year, the vice governor "was increasingly becoming agitated."

In one of his conversations with Recto, Topacio said the vice governor told him that Sanchez "was not giving him the respect he deserved." *Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Spare road toll from new VAT, groups urge gov't

STA. ROSA CITY—THE ASSOCIation of tollway operators and a group of motorists based in Laguna vowed to block the planned imposition of the 10-percent expanded value-added tax (E-VAT) on toll in both the North and South Luzon expressways.

Chito Borromeo, executive director of the Tollway Association of the Philippines (TAP), said his group recently presented a position paper to the Department of Finance and the Department of Justice-Court of Tax Appeals which explained the ill effects of E-VAT on their operations.

TAP is made up of 10 companies that operate the SLEx, NLEx, Skyway, Star Tollway in Batangas and Coastal Road in Cavite.

Borromeo, also the vice president of the Indonesian firm Citra Metro Manila Tollway Corp. that operates the Alabang-Nichols part of SLEx, said because the E-VAT is a "pass-on tax," motorists will solely bear the burden of the increase.

"In time, operators of tollways will be losing," he said. "In that case, both the investors and the public will be on the losing end.

Julius Caesar Corpuz, spokesperson of the Tollway Regulatory Board, the government agency that has the authority over the tollways, said the agency was already studying the position of TAP and other groups on the implementation of E-VAT.

Ray Junia, head of the Road Users Protection Advocates (Rupa), said imposing E-VAT on toll "is tantamount to double taxation."

"Toll is already a form of taxation," said his group. *Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

CEBU TRADER'S MURDER

Senator urges solution of slay

SENATOR MIRIAM Defensor-Santiago called on the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) and the Philippine National Police to speed up their investigation of the murder of Cebu-based businessman Wilson Yu last Oct. 6, 2005.

"I have asked Director General Reynaldo Wycoco of the NBI and Director General Arturo Lumibao of the PNP to give this case their utmost attention so that justice will be served," Santiago said in a press statement.

"It is important that not only the hired guns be caught and prosecuted, but the mastermind or masterminds as well," Santiago said. "Otherwise, we will be sending these thugs the wrong message that they can kill with impunity by hiring assassins to do the dirty work for them."

"The family of the victim is crying out for justice. They will not be rendered justice fully if only the hit men are caught. The police must make sure that those who are behind the killing be prosecuted and punished, no matter how powerful they turn out to be," the senator said.

Yu was killed by three armed men who opened fire on the vehicle he was driving near his office in Cabancalan, Mandaue City. The Mandaue City Government and the Mandaue Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) are offering a total of P100,000 for the suspects' capture, dead or alive.

Yu owned WAM Manufacturing and Development Inc., a surplus shop and franchises of fastfood chains Jollibee and Chowking. His murder has shaken other Chinese-Filipino businessmen in Cebu who now fear for their safety.

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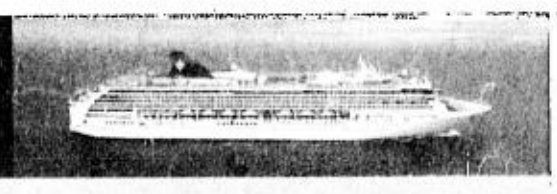

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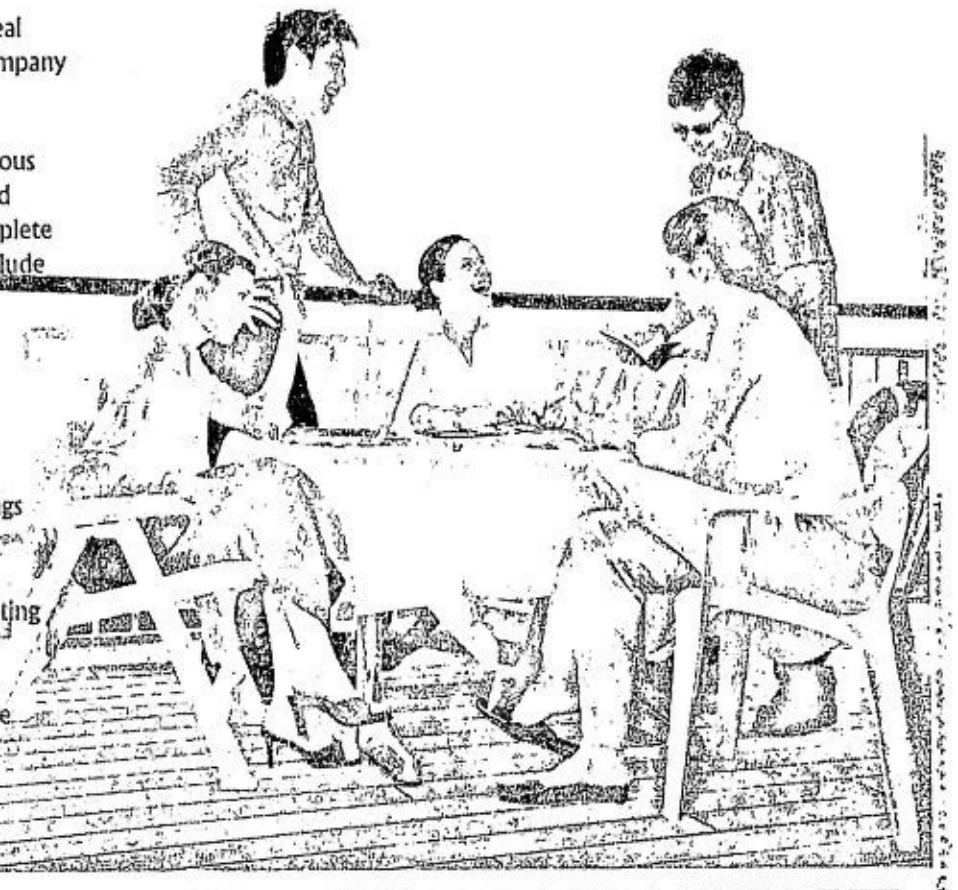

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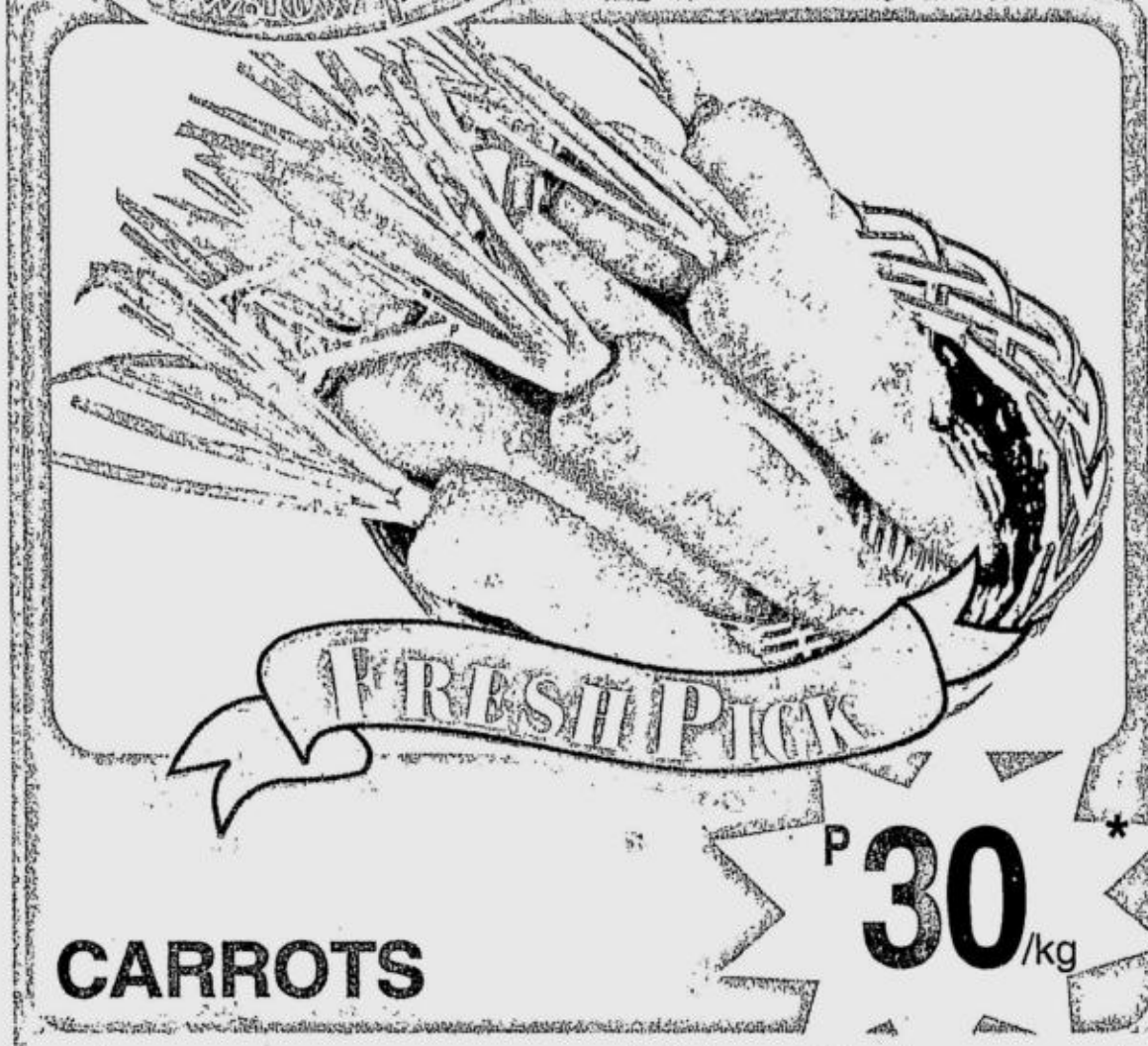

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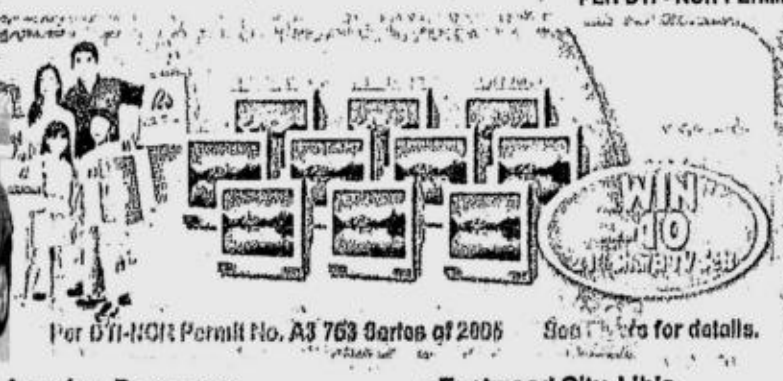

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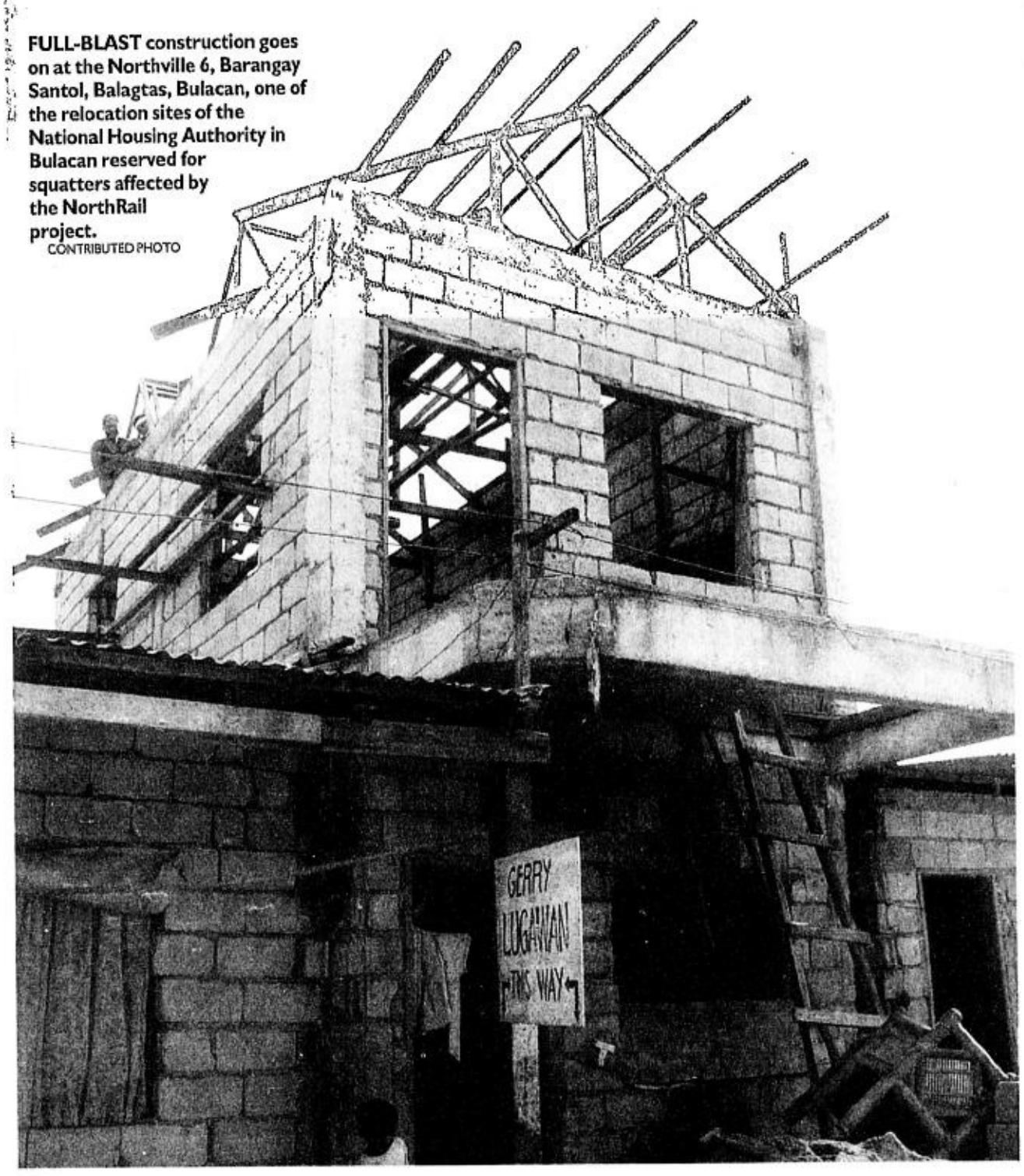


FULL-BLAST construction goes on at the Northville 6, Barangay Santol, Balagtas, Bulacan, one of the relocation sites of the National Housing Authority in Bulacan reserved for squatters affected by the NorthRail project. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NorthRail, NHA chiefs: Project on track for squatters

From page A1

the project as a "sweetheart deal" with China that is favorable to the Philippines.

Cortez predicted that the Supreme Court would eventually dismiss a petition filed by squatter representatives and the University of the Philippines Law Center.

The petitioners are asking the Supreme Court to issue a temporary restraining order and annul altogether the NorthRail-CNMEG contract, claiming it was hammered out in violation of the Constitution.

Politicized

Cortez also accused critics of the project of peddling "half-truths," adding that the project was being "politicized."

Vice President Noli de Castro also reacted sharply to allegations in the INQUIRER investigative report by some people whose shanties are on the path of the project that they had to shell out P500 to get on the list of those entitled to relocation assistance.

"We conducted regular site visits before and during the clearing operations in Valenzuela and other NorthRail communities, and many residents approached us with their concerns and complaints," said De Castro, chair of the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council.

"This is the first time I've heard of a P500 fee being asked from some residents," he said.

De Castro, who's now on top of the massive relocation, urged these residents to identify those collecting money from them.

Listens to concerns

Saying his office is not deaf to the concerns of those affected by the railway project, De Castro said that "when people complained of expensive construction materials from some suppliers, we changed the policy so they can choose their own suppliers."

"If some families were not able to avail of the relocation benefits because of this alleged P500 requirement, they should have come to us," De Castro said.

De Castro also described as "grossly unfair" that the INQUIRER reported he engaged in a "series of PR blitzes" to woo those targeted for relocation. He said he stood as sponsor to 95 couples during a mass wedding upon the request of the Malolos diocese.

Recycled issues

Federico Laxa, general manager of the National Housing Authority, said that the charges being leveled against the housing agency implementing the relocation of squatters along the railway lines were "all recycled issues."

He said politicians, moneyed commercial store owners, professional squatter syndicates and disgruntled applicants who failed to qualify for government housing assistance may be behind the ongoing disinformation campaign against the NorthRail project.

Laxa denied claims that resettlement sites lacked basic facilities such as water supply, electrical connections, drainage and sewage systems and health centers and schools.

P25,000 loan

He said that an inspection of any of the sites would show that such basic facilities had been provided there. He added that families relocated outside their municipalities had been given livelihood loans of up to P25,000.

Regarding alleged overvalued lands, Laxa reiterated that the NHA only financed the purchase of lots and construction of houses. The selection of the relocation and resettlement sites is made by the Local Inter-Agency Committee composed of several NGOs, squatter leaders and representatives of various police and government agencies, he said.

'Documents so loose it's easy . . .

From page A1

of," said Consunji.

"The Chinese can deliver an outdated railway and still comply with the specifications. The documents are so loose it would be easy to get away with anything," he added.

He wondered if the commuter train project would ever meet the vision of its Philippine architects for an efficient and affordable mass transport system between Caloocan and Malolos.

If there's anyone who knows what he's talking about, it is Consunji.

In February 1996, his company agreed to invest P300 million in the NorthRail project of the Bases Conversion Development Authority (BCDA).

At that time, the project seemed very attractive. It offered the company naturally a first crack on railway contracting aside from peripheral projects such as real estate that might be spawned along the way.

Aside from DM Consunji, he said Metro Pacific Corp. also infused P240 million. The rest came from the Spanish group that had first proposed the project to President Fidel V. Ramos' administration.

Botched Spanish deal

The Spaniards had offered to build a modern, electric train system and to shoulder the cost of relocating a squatter population of roughly 200,000—twice the size of San Juan municipality in Metropolitan Manila—all for some $630 million.

Then the 1997 Asian crisis struck. The project cost, even before that, had already more than doubled. When it became evident that financing was going to be difficult, especially with a massive squatter problem, the original NorthRail proposal fizzled out.

DM Consunji was left holding the bag. Somehow, Consunji said, Metro Pacific and the Spanish group were able to recover their investment.

10 years later

But Consunji had not, after almost a decade and with an entirely new NorthRail venture now on board.

Consunji appears not too worried, though. He said the BCDA and its subsidiary, the North Luzon Railway Corp. (NorthRail) assured him they would give the company back its investment, plus interest, if ordered by a court.

He is amenable to a debt swap arrangement, perhaps with one of the pieces of property of BCDA.

So, Consunji finally went into arbitration on Aug. 16.

Holding an empty bag

To him, it is BCDA and NorthRail that should worry. Pretty soon, they might be the ones holding a bag that may not be empty but filled with the goods that were not exactly what they had ordered.

He said the contract that the Philippine government signed with China left a lot of room for discretion.

China is lending $400 million to the Philippines to finance the construction by China National Machinery & Equipment Corp. (Group), or CNMEG, of the 32-km, double-track rail system.

Consunji said the deal could be easily exploited and abused, based on the documents he had and the information he had received. Since his company had not been paid, he said it was his business to know about these things.

Is the project overpriced?

"If it is abused, then it is overpriced. It means you are not getting what you paid for," said Consunji.

"It is like issuing a purchase order for a car that can run 125 kph for P1.5 million without specifying the brand or the particulars. So if I were a supplier, I can give you a Kia Picanto or I can give you a Honda Accord," he said.

"Both can run 125 kph. Even a second-hand car can run at 125 kph," he said.

His point was that the purchase order should have specified that it was buying the latest model of a particular brand of vehicle. In the case of NorthRail, it should have specified exactly what it was buying from CNMEG.

The documentation covering the contract with the Chinese group, he said, was couched in very general terms "in many aspects like the civil works and even the trains to be purchased."

Documentation as protection

A rigid documentation was meant to protect the proponent from the contractor. The detailed contract would ensure that there was a reference point from any diversion that may happen during the course of the construction.

In NorthRail's case, Consunji said the Philippine government was put in a blind spot.

And as a contractor, Consunji knew, that if the requirement was flexible enough for a business like his to come up with a product with a grade of one and not 10 (with 10 being the highest) and still pass, then the contractor would not pass up the chance to scrimp on the contract and in the process, make more money.

Consunji said he had advised Jose Cortez, NorthRail president, to "do something about the deficiencies now instead of getting into trouble later."

Transport Undersecretary Guiling Mamondiong disputed Consunji's claims.

He said he knew of existing documents pertaining to engineering design and bill of quantities.

Enough details

"I was told that such document exists. They cannot implement the project without it. The project went through a very regular process," said the transport deputy.

Cortez also denied the alleged irregularities but admitted there was no detailed documentation, such as the bill of works and quantities backing the contract.

He just said "there were enough details to be used as basis in determining the cost of the project."

Cortez assured that neither the Chinese government nor the contractor would pull a fast one on the Philippines.

The project cost, he said, could even go down from the estimated $400 million.

"This amount is the maximum cost. It will not go beyond that. We will also make sure they will not give us substandard service, materials or equipment."

Cortez, a businessman linked to First Gentleman Miguel Arroyo as he belongs to the same Makati Rotary Club, said he does not want to be discredited over this project.

"I want a cheaper cost for the country. I don't want to leave (my job) in disgrace," he said.

"It is a useless Life that is not consecrated to a great Ideal. It is like a Stone wasted on the field without becoming a part of any Edifice."

Dr. Jose P. Rizal

present with honor

The 15th Dr. Jose P. Rizal Memorial Awards

In Search of the Filipino Physicians of Distinction

MESSAGES

I convey my warmest greetings to the officers and members of the Philippine Medical Association on the holding of the 15th Dr. Jose P. Rizal Memorial Awards.

The Department of Health extends its congratulations to this year's awardees of the prestigious Dr. Jose P. Rizal Memorial Awards for their exemplary achievement and selfless contribution in providing essential health care service in order for our people to lead healthy, productive and meaningful lives.

May this occasion renew your commitment and dedication to the medical profession as you continue to contribute to our national development by working for the realization of a healthy Filipino Society.

I exhort you to dynamically pursue your mission of bringing quality, effective and affordable health care to our people.

Congratulations and Mabuhay kayong lahat!

FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III, M.D. MSc.
Secretary of Health
Chairman, Board of Judges

The greatest Filipino physician Dr. Jose P. Rizal lived and died for our country. Though belonging to the higher echelon of society, he selflessly woke up a sleeping nation from the oppressive foreign rule.

To perpetuate his memory and legacy, the Dr. Jose P. Rizal Memorial Awards are being given annually to Filipino physicians whose life and work personify the ideals of our national hero. Filipinos should be taught continuously to emulate the nationalism and patriotism of Dr. Jose P. Rizal.

Faced with all the socio-economic and political problems today, we need more of the kind of Dr. Jose P. Rizal. Proudly, our national hero came from the medical profession.

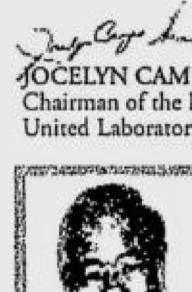
MODESTO O. LLAMAS, M.D.
President, Philippine Medical Association

For the past 15 years, the Search for the "Filipino Physicians of Distinction" rightfully honors the unsung heroes in the medical profession for the nobility of their endeavors and their unconditional concern for improving the health and well-being of others. As Rizal is a hero to the nation so too are these distinguished doctors heroes to their profession.

In behalf of Unilab, we wish to convey our admiration to the 15th Jose P. Rizal Memorial awardees, and to the Philippine Medical Association for continuing to inspire us in our sustained efforts to nurture and further strengthen our valued partnership.

To the honorees, my best wishes and heartfelt congratulations!

JOCELYN CAMPOS HESS
Chairman of the Board
United Laboratories, Inc.



The Dr. Jose P. Rizal Memorial Awards are given to Filipino Physicians of distinction who emulate the life, works, and dedication of our National Hero, in their profession, the community, and the country.

We are particularly elated by the fact that the award has grown in prestige and that our pool of outstanding physicians has become awe-inspiring over the years.

In behalf of Unilab, congratulations to this year's awardees. We are grateful to the Philippine Medical Association for giving us once again the honor and privilege to be its partner in organizing and holding the 15th Dr. Jose P. Rizal Memorial Awards.

CARLOS C. EJERCITO
President & CEO
United Laboratories, Inc.

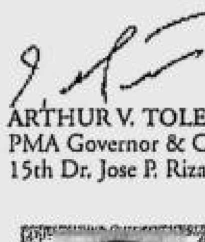
Conceived by the Southern Tagalog Association of Medical Practitioners (STAMP) the Dr. Jose P. Rizal Memorial Awards, through the encouragement and support of the Philippine Medical Association and the generous commitment of Unilab, has metamorphosed into one of the most prestigious award a physician can attain. This award is given in recognition of doctors whose achievements somehow exemplify and emulate the life and works of our national hero.

The occasion has become more relevant today, when we as a nation begin to perceive the ill-effects of the continuous exodus of physicians to other countries in search for a better life, the increasing number of doctors who opt to become nurses and the alarming decrease of enrollment into medical schools.

We fervently hope that this honor bestowed upon our awardees may inspire all doctors to stay and keep on serving our country.

My heartfelt and sincere congratulations to all the nominees and awardees on this 15th Dr. Jose P. Rizal Memorial Awards.

ARTHUR V. TOLENTINO, M.D.
PMA Governor & Chairman
15th Dr. Jose P. Rizal Memorial Awards



The Southern Tagalog Association of Medical Practitioners (STAMP) is proud to present this year's 15th Dr. Jose P. Rizal Memorial Awards in recognition of the hard work, dedication, perseverance and the selfless sacrifices of our friends and colleagues in the medical profession.

The STAMP is traditionally given the task of screening all the nominees for the awards, and as in the past years, I can only describe the process as: long, arduous and difficult because I believe that each of the nominees equally deserve the distinction.

I hope and pray that despite the hardships and difficulties of the times, more and more of our colleagues in the medical profession can emulate the distinction that is Rizal.

OSCAR D. TINIO, M.D.
President, Southern Tagalog Association of Medical Practitioners

The Dr. Jose P. Rizal Memorial Award is a partnership program of PMA & Unilab, initiated by the Southern Tagalog Association of Medical Practitioners (STAMP)

THE DR. JOSE P. RIZAL MEMORIAL AWARDS is given to outstanding Filipino physicians whose lives and works reflect the ideals of Rizal in their profession and practice, in their love for fellowmen, the country and God.

Initiated by the Southern Tagalog Association of Medical Practitioners (STAMP), the award hopes to inspire physicians and non-physicians to perpetuate the memory and legacy of Rizal. A toast to men and women whose selfless service that goes beyond the call of duty is a way of life: for the love of human life.

The award began in 1987, when a group of the PMA component presidents from the Southern Tagalog Region conceived of giving an award to an outstanding Filipino physician of the year. The STAMP regional council, headed by Dr. Galicano G. Espiritu (Cavite), and its project director, Dr. Aquilino Castro II (Laguna), decided to give the first ever award. Later, to make the award national in scope, STAMP sought the support of the Philippine Medical Association and United Laboratories, Inc.

Once more, four outstanding physicians will take their rightful places to join the prestigious roster of honorees in the 15th DR. JOSE P. RIZAL MEMORIAL AWARDS during the Presentation Night to be held on October 14, 2005 at the Hotel Intercontinental Manila in Makati City.

Unilab: Championing the Dr. Jose P. Rizal Memorial Award

Behind the prestigious award is the unwavering support of United Laboratories, Inc. Ever since its founding in 1945, Unilab has been working hand in hand with doctors and health care professionals to meet the health care needs of millions of Filipinos.

At the very root of its culture is the spirit of Bayanihan, a Filipino tradition of comradeship, of working hand in hand with the Department of Health as well as its health care allies- - doctors, dentists, nurses, and pharmacists, among others— for the welfare of Filipinos by providing affordable quality products and services. By championing the DR. JOSE P. RIZAL MEMORIAL AWARDS, Unilab hopes to inspire everyone— physicians and non-physicians— to nurture, to work together and, ultimately, share the fruits of our achievements.

15th Dr. Jose P. Rizal Memorial Award Finalists

Community Leadership

RODOLFO ROMAN T. BIGORNIA, M.D.
Internal Medicine - Pulmonology
Chairman, Cebu City Medical Center
Mem., Cebu Medical Society

VICTOR ROMULO G. DUMAGUING, M.D.
Internal Medicine
SLU Hospital of the Sacred Heart
Baguio City
Mem., Baguio-Benguet Medical Society

RIMANDO C. SAGUIN, M.D.
Orthopedics
Pres., We Care Foundation, Inc.
Mem., Quezon City Medical Society

Academe & Research

RAMON F. ABARQUEZ, JR., M.D.
Cardiology
Adult Cardiologist, Phil. Heart Center
Mem., Manila Medical Society

ABUNDIO A. BALGOS, M.D.
Internal Medicine-Pulmonology
Consultant, Pulmonology Section
Department of Medicine
Manila Doctor's Hospital
Mem., Manila Medical Society

REYNALDO O. JOSON, M.D.
Surgery
Chairman, Department of Surgery
Ospital ng Maynila Medical Center
Mem., Manila Medical Society

Outstanding Clinical Practice

PONCIANO M. BERNARDO, JR., M.D.
Urology
Pres., Urology Center of the Phils., Inc.
Mem., Quezon City Medical Society

SERAFIN C. HILVANO, M.D.
Surgery
Chief, Division of Endosurgery
UP-PGH Medical Center
Mem., Mandaluyong City Medical Society

WILLIE N. LAGDAMEO, M.D.
Pediatric Surgery
Full Professor, Faculty of Medicine & Surgery
University of Santo Tomas
Mem., Manila Medical Society

Government Service

CARMELO A. ALFILER, M.D.
Pediatrics
Dir., UP-PGH Medical Center
Mem., Muntinlupa Medical Society

EFREN M. DIMAANO, M.D.
General Medicine
Chairman, Infectious Disease
Critical Care Unit,San Lazaro Hospital
Mem., Manila Medical Society

ROMEO M. MAAÑO, M.D.
Public Health
Dir., Philippine Public Health Association
Mem., Quezon Medical Society

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15th Dr. Jose P. Rizal Memorial Awards

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Philippine Medical Association

AVELINA DE LA REA, PH.D.
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Past President
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ZORAYDA E. LEOPANDO, M.D.
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VICENTE V. TANSECO, M.D.
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CECILIA V. TOMAS, M.D.
Dean, College of Medicine & Surgery
University of the Philippines

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Past Executive Director
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The 15th Dr. Jose P. Rizal Memorial Awards Presentation Night
14 October 2005, Friday, 6:30 P.M.
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Makati offers tax breaks to lure business

By Tarra V. Quismundo

MAKATI IS PLANNING TO PROVIDE tax breaks to businesses based in the city and investors who would like to move in.

The city government said yesterday it was finalizing the Makati City Investment and Incentive Code. Among others, it would provide for a rewards system for firms based in what is considered to be the Philippines' financial and commercial center.

The code aims to create a fairer business climate in Makati.

The city government is drafting laws that would exempt certain businesses from business and realty taxes.

"Our goal is to make Makati even more competitive by both retaining and widening our investor base," said Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay in a statement.

The planned incentive scheme came as the city reviewed its revenue code. Business taxes would be fixed at city, instead of the current municipal, level.

Makati's business sector expressed apprehension over the planned revision aimed at boosting revenue generation in the city. It said some firms might decide to relocate when the new revenue code was implemented.

To encourage businesses to remain in Makati, the city government would pursue arewards system that includes a 100 percent tax exemption for qualified firms for the first year.

The exemption rate would gradually drop in the next two to three years though the percentage had yet to be decided, said Makati's Information and Community Relations Department chief Joey Salgado.

"The revenue code will just correct our tax base, while we've been discussing the incentive scheme since last year. We don't see the tax exemption greatly affected our revenue projections," said Salgado.

The code, he said, would reward businesses in the city's priority list, including information and communication technology (ICT) firms, such as software development and digital animation companies, and business process outsourcing (BPO) industries, including call centers.

City Hall said other firms that could be given rewards were privately-run health facilities, retirement centers, recreation and leisure facilities helpful to the local tourism industry, heritage and cultural projects, and post-graduate institutions.

"In the long run, what we see is more revenue, more services for the city, and more jobs for residents," Salgado said.

Once passed, Salgado said the incentive scheme would immediately apply to ICTs and BPOs, new businesses that would move to the city, and existing firms that would diversify to the info-tech field, among others.

A board, to be created upon the passage of the code, would decide what firms would qualify for exemption, said Salgado.

Still to be decided was whether or not the city would set a capital requirement for firms wanting to avail of the exemption.

Binay would be consulting the Makati Business Development Council, a body composed of the Makati Business Club, foreign chambers, civic groups, and representatives of Makati-based firms, on this issue.

TIME OUT
Children find the breakwater on Roxas Boulevard, Manila, an ideal playground on a lazy morning. ERIK ARAZAS

Manila wants films at half price

By Tina G. Santos

THE MANILA CITY GOVERNMENT urged yesterday theater owners to reduce by half ticket prices for local films to help the dying movie industry.

In exchange, Mayor Lito Atienza said he planned to give theater owners full tax exemptions.

"This is our way of helping the industry especially in these trying times. If we do it in Manila, it could have a snowball effect. Congress and other local government units might realize we must support the local film industry, which is already overburdened with taxes," Atienza told reporters during Wednesday's opening of the 7th Cinemanila International Film Festival.

At present, theater owners pay 15 percent in amusement tax, after the City Council reduced the original 30 percent.

Atienza admitted not all movie houses welcomed the idea.

"Personally, I think the cut will not affect them that much. If they cut their ticket prices in half, patrons would surely increase, so it's still additional revenue for them," the mayor said.

Atienza added he was working with Presidential Consultant on Entertainment Vic del Rosario and Film Development Council chief Rolando Atienza in developing ideas to revive the dying film industry.

The mayor expressed confidence Cinemanila would help the industry as it involved not only movie house owners but independent filmmakers, too. This year's festival, which ends Oct. 25, features 12 international films and eight local digital films.

METROBRIEFS

Marikina's carillon bells

BELL rings sound familiar? That could be the national anthem, played by carillon bells at the new million-peso park in Marikina City. The 12 bells hang from a 12-meter concrete wall in front of a water fountain inside the 1,700-sq. m. Marikina Cityhood Park. The local government spent almost P11 million for the new park on corner Shoe Avenue and Sumulong Highway, a project document said, with the imported bells alone costing almost P3 million. Imported from Italy, the bells have been programmed to ring every hour, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., playing different tunes, from the local city hymn to other nationalistic songs like Bayan Ko, said city architect Joy Alarcon. "This is a monument dedicated to Marikina's 9th year as a city," she said. *Edson C. Tandoc Jr.*

Donate through text

ILLUSTRATIONS: STEPH BRAVO

THE PHILIPPINE National Red Cross (PNRC) has found the quickest and most convenient way to help earthquake victims from Afghanistan, Pakistan and India through mobile phones. The agency the other day launched a cellphone-based system that would allow the public to course their donations through text. Globe Telecom's mobile commerce services, particularly the G-Cash and Share-a-Load platforms, will receive the donations. PNRC Chair Richard Gordon said donors can either text "RED" <space> <amount> to 2899 via Share-a-Load, or through G-Cash, text the following: <amount> <your G-Cash PIN> and send to 28829178733277. Donors can send amounts from P5, P25, P100 and P300. Paysetter International is the PNRC's partner in facilitating the donations. *Jocelyn R. Uy.*

Judge loses van to car hijackers

A JUDGE lost his sports utility vehicle to armed men in a carjacking incident the other night in Quezon City. Ruben Reyes, an associate justice at the Court of Appeals, and his driver were cruising onboard a Honda CRV on Pascual Street in Barangay Baesa at 7:45 p.m. when they were flagged down by two armed men. The suspects ordered the victims to get down from the car, said SPO1 Danilo Esparza of Talipapa Police Station. The suspects later took Reyes' car with plate number SGS-259. The case was turned over to the anti-carnapping division of the Quezon City Police District. But Reyes had not yet given a statement when the INQUIRER went to the police station yesterday. *DJ Yap*

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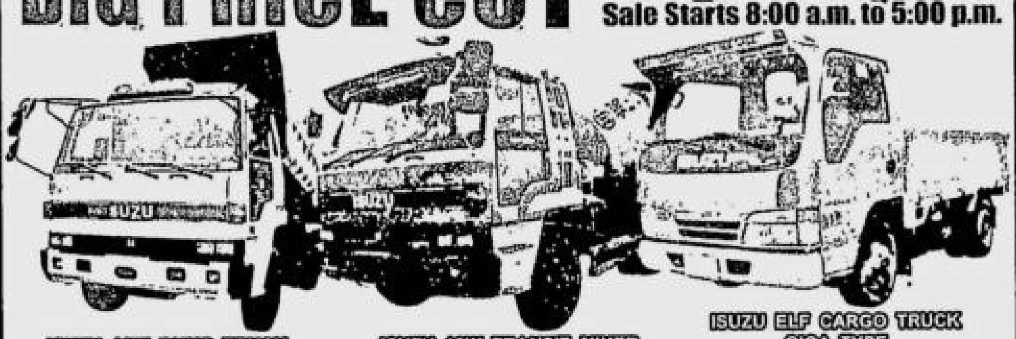

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CHICKEN LOLLIPOP WITH TERIYAKI SAUCE

300 g	chicken lollipop (chicken wings, cut and styled into a lollipop by turning over the flesh to the other end)	2 Tbsp	cooking oil
		3 cloves	garlic, crushed
		1 Tbsp	ginger, finely chopped
2 Tbsp	calamansi juice	2 Tbsp	**Silver Swan soy sauce**
1/4 cup	**Silver Swan soy sauce**	2 Tbsp	sugar
1/2 cup	flour	1 cup	water
2 pcs	eggs, beaten	1 Tbsp	cornstarch
1/2 cup	breadcrumbs	1/4 tsp	salt
1 cup	cooking oil for deep-frying	1 Tbsp	**Silver Swan cane vinegar**

Procedure:
1. Marinate chicken lollipop wings for 30 minutes in combined **Silver Swan soy sauce** and calamansi juice.
2. Dip in flour, in the beaten egg and then in the breadcrumbs. Deep fry. Repeat with the rest of the chicken wings.
3. In a bowl, combine sugar, water, salt, **Silver Swan cane vinegar** and cornstarch. Set aside.
4. In a pan, sauté garlic and ginger. Add **Silver Swan soy sauce** and the combined sugar-cornstarch mixture. When sauce thickens, remove from heat.
5. Arrange chicken lollipops on a platter. Pour sauce and serve. Makes 4 servings.

% Recommended energy and nutrient intakes

Energy	Pro	Fat	CHO	Ca	P	Fe	VitA	VitB1	VitB2	VitB3	VitC
18	27	33	10	13	21	13	18	6	17	29	9

A serving is a fair source of protein and riboflavin.

TILAPIA CRUNCH SURPRISE

2 pcs	big tilapia, cut into 1-inch fillet strips	1 Tbsp	wansoy leaves, chopped
2 Tbsp	**Silver Swan soy sauce**	2 Tbsp	peanuts, coarsely chopped
1 tsp	ground pepper	1 pc	siling labuyo, chopped
1 tsp	paprika	**Dressing:**	
1/4 cup	all-purpose flour	2 Tbsp	**Silver Swan sukang puti**
1 cup	cooking oil for deep-frying	1/4 cup	vegetable oil
1 head	lettuce, chopped	1/2 tsp	salt
1 pc	manggang manibalang, cut into fine strips	1/4 tsp	ground pepper
		1 Tbsp	calamansi juice
1 pc	small white onion, cut thinly lengthwise	1/4 tsp	paprika
		1 tsp	**Silver Swan patis seasoning**
2 pcs	tomatoes, chopped	2 tsp	sugar

Procedure:
1. Marinate tilapia fillet strips in combined **Silver Swan soy sauce**, pepper and paprika at least 30 minutes. Lightly dip strips in flour. Deep fry in oil. Set aside.
2. Combine lettuce, mango, onion, wansoy and tomatoes.
3. Combine dressing ingredients.
4. Toss the fried tilapia fillet strips and the dressing to the lettuce mixture just before serving.
5. Sprinkle peanuts and chopped siling labuyo. Makes 4 servings.

% Recommended energy and nutrient intakes

Energy	Pro	Fat	CHO	Ca	P	Fe	VitA	VitB1	VitB2	VitB3	VitC
21	33	43	10	9	32	14	59	15	26	44	74

A serving meets close to 75% of the recommended nutrient intake for vitamin C. It is also packed with protein, vitamin A and riboflavin.

*Based on July 1 2005 prices

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Task force men nabbed for extortion

By Margaux C. Ortiz

AGENTS OF THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF Investigation (NBI) arrested 11 operatives of the Anti-Illegal Recruitment Task Force (AIRTF) headed by former Senior Insp. Reynaldo Jaylo on Wednesday night in a restaurant in Pasig City for allegedly engaging in extortion activities.

But NBI officials refused to name the suspects, saying that they were still conducting an investigation on the incident. The operatives, both policemen and civilians, were arrested by a composite team of NBI agents from the Intelligence Service Operations Division and Special Task Force while allegedly receiving marked money from the complainant, a certain John Hernandez who accused the AIRTF men of extortion. The suspects are now detained at the NBI headquarters, according to NBI Assistant Director Nestor Mantaring. Jaylo, however, said there was "a miscommunication" between the NBI and the AIRTF. "The complainant, a suspected illegal recruiter, only wanted to destroy our credibility," Jaylo said, adding that his men were just doing their jobs.

Labor officials in August announced the setting up of a new task force to combat illegal recruitment and human trafficking to take over the duties of the Presidential Anti Illegal Recruitment Force whose mandate had expired and was not renewed by Malacañang.

Threats, after promotion

By Edson C. Tandoc Jr.

NO END TO "BRAVERY" TESTS FOR THIS policeman.

After he killed two suspected bus robbers and got a spot promotion from no less than national police chief Director General Arturo Lomibao, PO3 Disilito Custodio, has been receiving new threats on his life.

But he is undaunted. "*Dinadaan ko na lang sa lakas ng loob*," Custodio told the INQUIRER.

Some inmates at the Pasay City Jail yelled threats at him when he went to the Pasay City Police the other day. The inmates were alleged former cohorts of the suspected robbers he had killed.

Because of this, his superiors at the Mandaluyong City Police has allowed him to report for work during the day, instead of his usual night-to-dawn shift as a member of the patrol team.

Custodio, 28, assigned at the Police Community Precinct 4 on Shaw Boulevard in Mandaluyong City, on his way to work when he encountered the four alleged robbers on the bus he had boarded. The policemen shot two of the suspects after they had collected their loot from the passengers.

Lomibao described Custodio as "another hero" who should "serve as an inspiration to his fellow policemen."

Safer place for wildlife

By Tina G. Santos

TO PROTECT ENDANGERED SPECIES AND curb the growing illegal wildlife trade in Manila, the local government is set to deploy Wildlife Enforcement Officers (WEO) in strategic areas in the city.

This developed as city officials the other day forged a memorandum of agreement with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) seeking to enforce the provisions of Republic Act 9147, otherwise known as the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of 2001.

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Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres

UAAP president knew all along

By Jasmine W. Payo

KNOWING THE UPROAR THAT IT COULD cause, the UAAP president admitted yesterday that he decided to keep quiet when De La Salle University informed him hours before Game 2 of its title series with Far Eastern University that there's an ineligible cager on its roster.

"They sent me a letter in the morning of Game 2," said league president Fr. Maximino Rendon, CM, of host Adamson University. "I could not stop the game. Do you want me to turn the public away? So we waited at the end of the season.

"La Salle also asked me to keep quiet for the meantime, and I kept my word. So I wasn't surprised when they decided to reveal it to the public."

La Salle announced last Tuesday that it was willing to forfeit its 2004 UAAP men's basketball crown after learning that it had unknowingly fielded an ineligible player in the last three years.

La Salle officials have said they are "legally constrained not to reveal the name of the player."

The INQUIRER has also withheld the name of the player in the last three days, even as numerous message boards on the Internet have already identified the cager as third-year 6-foot-5 center Mark Benitez.

The UAAP board will tackle the case when it meets in the third week of November.

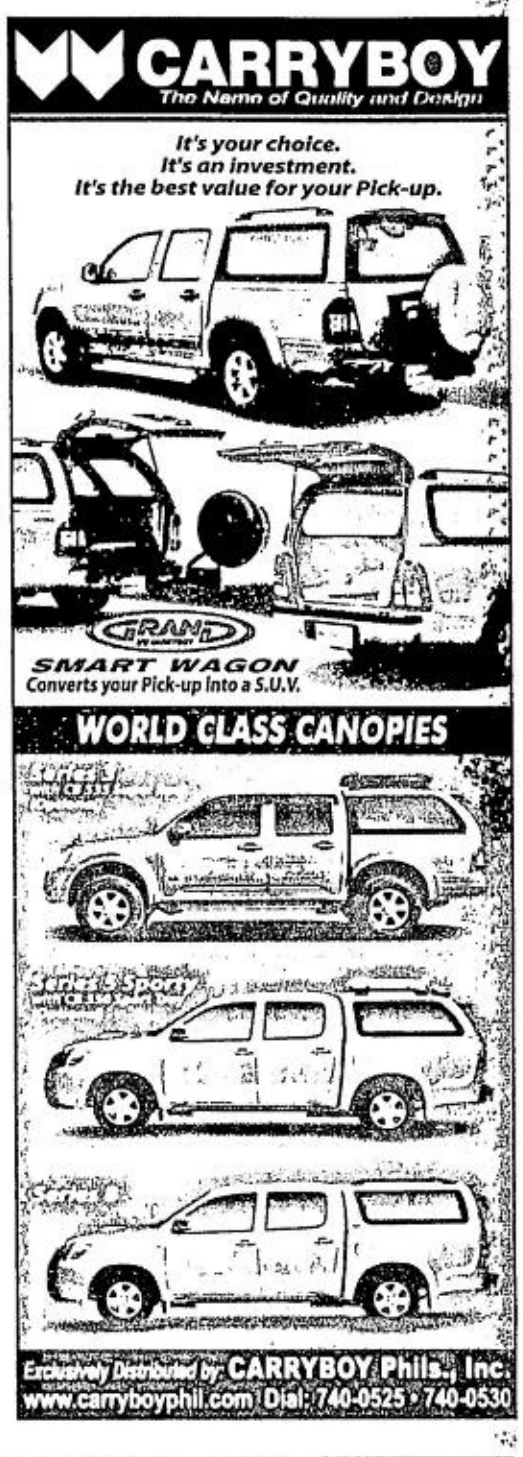
Even amid comments that an emergency meeting should have been called, Rendon maintained that there's no need to hurry.

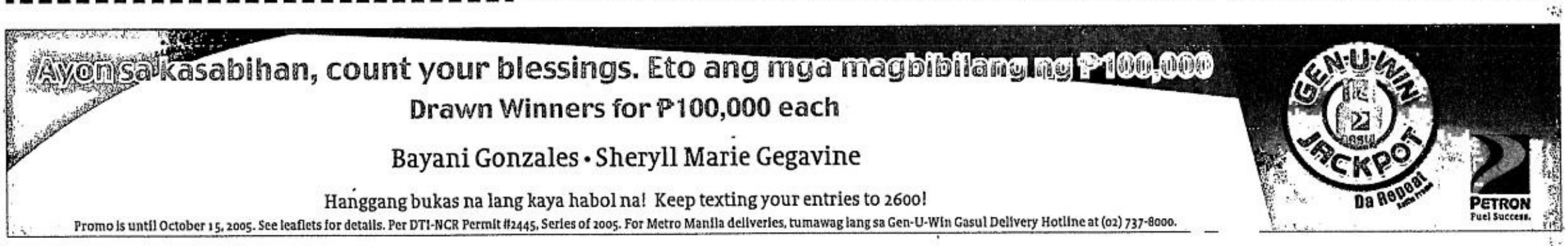
"We all want to wait," said Rendon, adding that the board will not conduct its own investigation.

UAAP/ A26

Miñoza among Bangkok leaders

A26





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8 DUBAI
9 INTO THE BLUE
10 TRUMPETS: LITTLE MERMAID
11 TIM BURTON'S CORPSE BRIDE
12 LAND OF DEAD

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4 INTO THE BLUE
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6 HISTORY OF VIOLENCE
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9 DUBAI
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11 DUNGEONS AND DRAGON
12 LAND OF THE DEAD

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2 WALLACE AND GROMIT
3 DUBAI
4 DUNGEONS AND DRAGON
5 TIM BURTON'S CORPSE BRIDE
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7 INTO THE BLUE
8 LORD OF WAR

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2 DUNGEONS AND DRAGON
3 LORD OF WAR
4 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
5 DUBAI
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7 INTO THE BLUE
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9 TRANSPORTER 2
10 LAND OF THE DEAD

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1 LORD OF WAR
2 DUBAI
3 DEUCE BIGALOW
4 DUNGEONS AND DRAGON
5 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
6 TRANSPORTER 2
7 INTO THE BLUE
8 WALLACE AND GROMIT
9 HISTORY OF VIOLENCE
10 LAND OF THE DEAD

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3 INTO THE BLUE
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7 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
8 INTO THE BLUE

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SM CITY MARILAO
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2 DUBAI
3 LAND OF THE DEAD
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1 AUSTRALIAN FILM FEST
2 LORD OF WAR
3 DEUCE BIGALOW
4 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
5 INTO THE BLUE
6 LAND OF THE DEAD
7 DUBAI
8 BROTHERS GRIMM

SM CITY ILOILO
1 PERFECT MAN
2 RESERVED
3 DUBAI
4 LAND OF THE DEAD
5 DUECE BIGALOW
6 TRANSPORTER 2
7 RESERVED
8 CONSTANT GARDENER

SM CITY DAVAO
1 TRANSPORTER 2
2 THE CROW4:WICKED PRAYER
3 DUBAI
4 LAND OF THE DEAD
5 DEUCE BIGALOW
6 LORD OF WAR

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Hot Tour return for Miñoza

SAMUI, THAILAND—FRANKIE MIÑOZA RETURNED TO THE ASIAN Tour in sizzling form Thursday, firing a 4-under-par 68 to tie for third halfway through the opening round of the $200,000 Bangkok Airways Open at the challenging Santiburi Samui Country Club here.

The Filipino ace was in a tie with Lu Wei-lan of Taiwan, three strokes behind Thai Chawalit Plaphol, who paced all finishers in the morning with a seven-under 65.

S. Murthy of Malaysia was alone in second place after a 66.

Prayad Marksaeng, another Thai standout, led a six-man group at 69.

Other Filipinos seeing action in the event are Gerald Rosales, Jerome Delariarte, Cassius Casas, Carito Villaroman and Danny Zarate.

In eight events, Minoza has won $83,816 to rank 31st in the Asian Order of Merit. Compatriot Angelo Que, who is not entered here, is ranked 39th with earnings of $71,247 in 17 tournaments.

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3 LORD OF WAR 12:30, 3:10, 5:50, 8:30, 11:00 R-13
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THE 40 YEAR-OLD VIRGIN R13 12:00,2:25,4:50,7:15,9:40
TIM BURTON'S CORPSE BRIDE GP 1:00,3:00
INTO THE BLUE PG13 5:00 7:25 9:50
LORD OF WAR R13 12:00,2:30,5:00, 7:30,10:00

UAAP president knew all along

From page A25

"They're the ones (La Salle) who made the revelation, so let them prove it. Once they're finished, then they will present it to us. We will base our decision on their findings.

"Besides, we don't know who's involved. Was it the player? Were there other people involved? That's the focus of La Salle's investigation."

Shocking discovery

League sources said that had La Salle won Game 2 to force a rubber match, the Archers wouldn't show up in the deciding Game 3, originally set last Saturday, and instead announce its shocking discovery.

Rendon said he also prefers the board to meet en banc.

"Most of the board members were also part of the Aquino case," noted Rendon. "Not all of us are here (in the country) right now. I want us to be complete because this is a serious matter."

Similar controversy

The league faced a similar controversy in 1994 when Marlou Aquino was found to have played for Adamson, despite academic deficiencies, when he presented his school records in his application to turn professional. Adamson was suspended from the league for one season.

Last Tuesday, La Salle admitted that the high school records of a player on its current roster "turned out to be spurious," and was therefore "neither eligible for admission to DLSU nor for participation as a member of DLSU's basketball team."

The statement noted that the Philippine Educational Placement Test Certificate of Rating (PEPTCR) submitted by the player "was not genuine, thus rendering him academically ineligible."

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Aces clash with Giants; Barako battle Kings

SHUFFLING A DEEP BENCH HAS BEEN A MINOR WORRY for the Alaska Aces.

After Red Bull Barako had cashed in on that Alaska dilemma the last time out, the Aces are now looking to rectify the situation against the Purefoods Chunkee Giants today in the San Mig Coffee-PBA Fiesta Conference at the Cuneta Astrodome.

"It's still very hard for the guys to adjust," said coach Tim Cone, whose Aces are arguably one of the top-rated teams in the league following their recent acquisition of Tony Dela Cruz and last year's rookie of the year Rich Alvarez.

"It looks so simple, but it's difficult for players who used to play longer minutes to go in and out of the court," added Cone, whose Aces will face the Giants at 4:40 p.m.

With Quemont Greer dishing another stunning output, the Barakos pounced on Alaska in the stretch, with some of the Aces unable to sustain their rhythm after getting lesser playing time as before.

Greer will again take the spotlight during the Barako's encounter opposite the crowd-favorite Barangay Ginebra Kings at 7:25 p.m. in this tournament also sponsored by Xtreme Magic Sing.

The Gin Kings will try to bounce back from a loss to the Sta. Lucia Realtors, who relied on rookie Alex Cabagnot in a big last-quarter rally.

"I had not seen him (Cabagnot) play until that game," said Jay Jay Helterbrand. "I'll come prepared next time."

Greer, who normed 38.5 points and 14 boards in his first two games, will be ranged against Sean Lampley, the import who powered the Barako to the 2002 Governors Cup title.

"The old guys used to play 30 to 40 minutes a game, but now they have to share the time with Tee (McClary) and the new ones," said Cone, referring to Jeffrey Cariaso, Brandon Cablay, Don Allado, Reynel Hugnatan and Mike Cortez.

But the Giants are not taking chances.

Marquin Chandler is raring to bounce back from an 88-86 defeat against the Air21 Express.

June Navarro

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Purefoods	1	1
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Sta. Lucia	1	1
Alaska	1	1
SMB	0	2

GAMES TODAY
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4:40 p.m.—Purefoods vs Alaska
7:25 p.m.—Red Bull Barako vs Ginebra
GAME TOMORROW *(Tubod, Lanao Del Norte)*
4:30 p.m.—Sta. Lucia Realty vs Coca-Cola

Reverie to reality

By Percy D. Della

COMMENTARY

DISTRITO CUATRO, CUYAPO, Nueva Ecija.

Tamurong Primero, Candon City, Ilocos Sur.

Hardly datelines by Associated Press standards, but are prominent places in my heart. I have often shuttled between Cuyapo, and Candon only in my dreams. Cuyapo is where I was born and bred. Candon, where my backyard is the South China Sea, strengthens the Ilocano roots on my father's side of the family.

In the last month or so, I have traveled to both places physically with alarming regularity, says the missus who forks out the gas money.

From reverie to reality.

I am home.

From California.

For good.

I have opted to retire early as one of a handful (80 or so) spokepersons for the 200,000-strong California state government.

Pangs of homesickness and spasms of sentimentality helped seal the move.

Coming home after eons in America was, to me, a no-brainer, although friends and relations here and in California said I ought to have my head examined.

I have parried questions about my future back home until they stopped. I don't know what I want yet—just what I didn't want.

Although my three daughters are California-born and bred, they are formed by their Filipino heritage, language and the desire to achieve. They have vowed in true Pinoy tradition never to check us in to a "home" in our golden years.

But it is the thought of a wider society that seems to care more for pets than parents that I cannot fathom and never will.

So I am home. And I want to blend in.

There is no more thinking that the tule grass is the cogon; that the oak is the narra tree; that the American River that winds around California's Sacramento Valley is the Agno of Northern Luzon.

There is more thinking that the Orange grooves of the Central Valley are long stretches of calamansi stands in Laguna. No more thinking that the road up to the Sierra Nevada's Lake Tahoe is the Kennon Road to Baguio.

Best of all, for a sports hand like me, there's no more pretending that Sacramento's Arco Arena or Alameda's Coliseum is the Araneta in Cubao.

There's no more wishing that the NBA is the PBA instead.

Sport's note: POC head Peping Cojuangco and BAP honcho Joey Lina appear to dance a minuet of mutual respect as they tackle basketball issues. Having said that, a corollary to Napoleon's rule somehow crops up: "Never get in the way of your enemy when he's heading for the cliff. But give him a push if you can get away with it."

Amnesty on foreign-born stars under fire

By June Navarro

HOMEGROWN PLAYERS IN THE Philippine Basketball Association are up in arms against a plan by league officials for an "amnesty" program for foreign-bred players accused of faking their Filipino citizenship.

"Does it mean that they can play again despite the uncertainty regarding their citizenship," said Marlou Aquino of Sta. Lucia Realty.

"Amnesty means pardoning an offender for his crime. Why forgive these players when they did not even admit that they are fakes?"

The 6-foot-9 veteran, a staunch adherent of the move to rid the league of foreign players masquerading as Filipinos, is part of a group of players which has questioned the lineage of some of their colleagues.

AQUINO: Why pardon them?

Last year, they went to the Senate and Department of Justice to air their grievances.

A Senate committee headed by former senator Robert Barbers found eight players culpable for faking their citizenship and recommended their deportation.

The justice department later revoked the certificates of recognition it had given to Asi Taulava, Rudy Hatfield, Alex Crisano, Jon Ordonio, Mick Pennisi and Davonn Harp.

Taulava has since been reinstated through a court order while Rudy Hatfield was cleared by Malacañang to rejoin Coca-Cola the moment he completes the PBA's requirements.

Yesterday, the justice department also cleared Pennissi and allowed him to resume playing for Red Bull.

Fil-Ams seek RP swim slots

EIGHT FIL-AMERICAN SWIMMERS have submitted their times hoping for possible inclusion in the Southeast Asian Games next month, according to the Philippine Amateur Swimming Association yesterday.

Their names, though, were withheld until the completion of the ongoing SEAG tryouts, being dominated by teenagers led by Ryan Arabejo at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum.

Pasa president Mark Joseph said the official times of those who competed in the tryouts and those of the US-based swimmers will be evaluated to determine the composition of the RP SEAG team.

"We are looking at 20 to 25 swimmers," said Joseph, who already has four seasoned swimmers in the squad training in the United States.

Marc Anthony Reyes

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CINEMA 5 DEUCE BIGALOW 2 - R13 10:45, 12:40, 2:35, 4:30, 6:25, 8:20, 10:15
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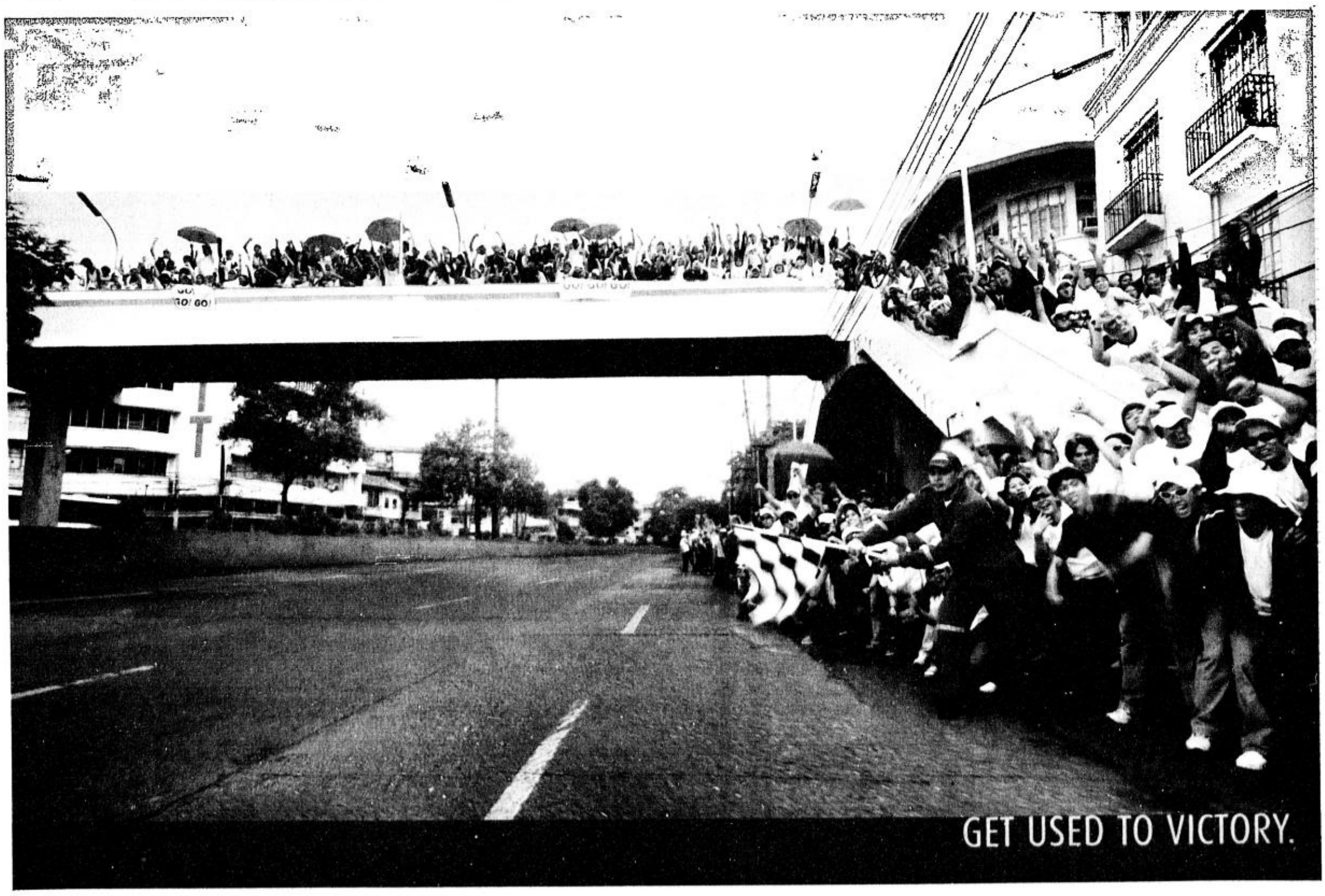

Tribu Sugbu goes for South finals clincher today

OZAMIZ CITY—OZAMIZ HOPES to live another day when it plays defending champion Tribu Sugbu today in Game 2 of the Southern Conference finals in the 2005 Panasonic-NBC national basketball championship at the Gov. Angel Medina Sr. gym here.

Mayor Reynaldo Parojinog's Ozamiz Cotta, which lost 76-82 in the best-of-three series opener last Tuesday, must win the 6 p.m. contest to extend the series to the limit.

Though deserted by key players of last year's champion team like Chico Lanete, Alfie Grijaldo, Ruben dela Rosa, Marlon Piodo and Jeff Sanders, the Tribesmen of businessmen Lito Gillamac and Mario King have remained strong.

"We need to win tonight," said Tribu coach Al Solis. "It will be difficult beating Ozamiz in another game because of the home crowd."

Ozamiz finished the eliminations with the best record of 10-3, but it is now in danger of missing the national finals for the second straight year.

The winner of the southern title will meet Northern Conference champion Cavite in the national finals of the tournament supported by Panasonic, Sulpicio Lines, Spring Cooking Oil, Sunbolt Sports Drink, Accel, Molten, Nature's Spring, Far Eastern Insurance, Skygo, Sirlitz, Hapee Toothpaste, Dewfoam, KSK Food Products (Boy Bawang), Prime Channel, Bayview Park Hotel and Holiday Plaza-Cebu.

Tribu is banking on Ronald Bucao, Alex Cainglet, Melvin Mercado, Doroteo Almacin and former Ozamiz players Boyet Guerrero and Chris Ferraren to finish off Ozamiz.

On the other hand, Ozamiz coach Albert Calvo pins his hopes on Christian Nicdao, Melfred Sampilo, Rulof Llangco and Elbert Alberto to turn things around.

"We'll be going all-out tonight," said Calvo. "I know my boys always deliver when their backs are against the wall."

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5 GOLD (DOLBY) DEUCE BIGALOW-2
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2 (DTS) THE TRANSPORTER-2
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2 DUBAI
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Cinema 2000 Waltermart (Plaridel) tel (044) 795.3320
1 DEUCE BIGALOW-2
2 DUKE OF HAZZARDS
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3 DUNGEONS & DRAGONS-2
4 DEUCE BIGALOW-2

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1 (DOLBY) DEUCE BIGALOW-2
2 (DOLBY) DUNGEONS & DRAGONS-2
3 (DOLBY) LORD OF WAR
4 (DOLBY) DUBAI

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2 DEUCE BIGALOW-2
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4 CINE MANILA FILMS FESTIVAL
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2 DEUCE BIGALOW-2

Jade Cinema (Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03
1 (DOLBY EX) THE DESCENT
2 DUBAI
3 (DTS EX) DEUCE BIGALOW-2
4 BLADE OF THE ROSE

Cine Nepo (Angeles City) tel (045) 887.0121
1 DUBAI
2 THE CAVE
3 (DOLBY) DEUCE BIGALOW-2
4 (DTS) THE CROW-4

Cine Nepo (Dagupan City) tel (075) 515.8409
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2 LAND OF THE DEAD
3 (DOLBY) DEUCE BIGALOW-2
4 (DTS) THE CROW-4

Centre Plaza Cinema (Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007
1 DUBAI
2 PERFECT CATCH

starmall Movies www.clickthecity.com.ph (Mandaluyong) tel. 7266150
1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 DUBAI
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX) DUNGEONS & DRAGONS-2
5 DEUCE BIGALOW-2

METROPOLIS star www.clickthecity.com.ph (ALABANG) tel. 8504286, 5433994
1 BLADE OF THE ROSE
2 DUBAI
3 RESERVED
4 RESERVED
5 (DOLBY) DEUCE BIGALOW-2
6 LORD OF WAR

starmall Movies www.clickthecity.com.ph (LAS PINAS) tel. 8735004
1 (DOLBY) MUST LOVE DOGS
2

Lianas Cinema (Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 (SDDS) CIA INTELEGENCE
2 ARAY
3 KISKISAN
4 (DTS) THE GREAT RAID

Lianas MovieCity (Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
1 (DOLBY) DEUCE BIGALOW-2
2 DUBAI
3 (DTS) THE TRANSPORTER-2
4 CIA INTELEGENCE
5 LORD OF WAR

Fiesta World Mall (Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 LAND OF THE DEAD
2 DEUCE BIGALOW-2
3 PERFECTS CATCH
4 DUBAI

Berma Cinema (Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029
1 THE CAVE
2 KAKAIBANG KARISMA

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Support pours for MY Games National Invt'l

SUPPORT HAS POURED IN FOR THE MANILA Youth Games (MY Games) National Invitational, the big, first-ever staging of a multisports competition initiated by a local government unit.

More than 40 cities, towns and provinces have entered teams in the event which will showcase the finest athletes 17 years old and younger from Oct. 23-30 in various Manila sports venues, according to the organizing Manila Sports Council (Masco).

"This is a very healthy indication that other local government units throughout the country are also deep into sports," said Arnold "Ali" Atienza, chair of the Masco and son of Mayor Lito Atienza.

The MY Games National, backed by the Pagcor, San Miguel Corp., Milo, Red Bull, Philippine Airlines, Super Ferry, Unilever, Speedo, IntrASports and Concept Movers, will hold competitions in athletics, swimming, taekwondo, football, and little league softball and baseball.

Among the LGUs which have already confirmed participation in the event are the cities of Cebu, Mandaue, Danao, Puerto Princesa, Muntinlupa, Tanauan, Valenzuela, Marikina, Santiago, Antipolo, Balanga, Iligan, Makati, Parañaque, Pasay, Quezon, Taguig, Tuguegarao, Davao, Calamba, Caloocan, San Fernando, General Santos and Baguio.

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LORD OF WAR 12:50 / 3:40 / 6:30 / 9:20	THE 40 YR OLD VIRGIN 1:00 / 3:40 / 6:20 / 9:00
WALLACE & GROMIT 12:00 / 2:10 / 4:20 / 6:30 / 8:40	INTO THE BLUE 1:50 / 4:20 / 6:50 / 9:20
DUNGEONS & DRAGONS 2 12:50 / 3:40 / 6:30 / 9:20	DUBAI 1:40 / 4:10 / 6:40 / 9:10
CORPSE BRIDE 12:20 / 2:30 / 4:40 / 6:50 / 9:00	TRANSPORTER 2 1:00 / 3:00 / 5:00 / 7:00 / 9:00

ALI MALL CINEMAS

1 DUBAI 12:30 / 3:00 / 5:30 / 8:00	4 INTO THE BLUE 12:35 / 3:05 / 5:35 / 8:05
2 LORD OF WAR 11:55 / 2:45 / 5:35 / 8:25	5 DEUCE BIGALOW 2 12:10 R3 / 1:25 / 3:40 / 5:55 / 8:10
3 DUNGEONS & DRAGONS 2 12:05 / 2:55 / 5:45 / 8:35	DOLBY DIGITAL DTS SDDS

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ALLAN K, GLADYS & JANNO - SUPERFRIENDS *October 14, Friday 8 pm*	2005 STAR OLYMPICS *October 15, Saturday 8 am*

CENTER EVENTS

PROMOS	*Araneta Center Hoopla Grand Draw Tomorrow, October 15 at the Gateway Drive starting 8pm*
SALE	*Mod Milano Sale Up to 50% off on selected items until the end of October.*

LOG ON TO www.aranetacenter.net FOR MORE DETAILS OR TO SUBSCRIBE TO OUR WEEKLY E-MAIL ENTERTAINMENT UPDATES

Gold Cup derby at Pasay today

COCKFIGHTING ENTHUsusiasts converge at Pasay City Cockpit today for the popular Annual. Gold Cup 4-Stag Derby which gets under way at 6 p.m. featuring 70 matches. Sponsor is Sagupaan Complexor 3000. Pit manager Eric dela Rosa said the derby draws huge crowds. Two-time world champion William Go, well-known for his Gold Cup and Lista Na entries, is derby host. Among the participants are Allan Siaco, Pepito Ngo, Jake Macasaet, Jun Marasigan, Ramon Mancenares, Eddie delos Santos, Tonette Luzuriaga, Rey Briones, Joey Lapid, Arnold Mendoza and Joel Fernando. Also invited are members of the Luzon Gamecock Breeders Association. For inquiries, call 843-1890, 843-1746 or 816-6750.

RACING TIPS

AT SLLP BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. Western Dancer 2. Tactical Move 3. Day Break 4. Miss Bobon
Race 2—1. Desert Fly 2. Royal Lantana 3. Real Storm
Race 3—1. Super Wind 2. Real Tough 3. Western Legend
Race 4—1. Perfect Time/Stingray 2. Reporter 3. Perky Perp 4. Clear Stone 5. Speed King
Race 5—1. Euro Bucks/War Alert 2. Golden Link
Race 6—1. Kaori Yoks 2. Cool Turner 3. Speedster 4. Ginja
Race 7—1. Tout Est Grace 2. I Love This Game 3. Lady Boomer 4. Dark Desert
Race 8—1. Xtreme Heat 2. Golden Fantasy 3. Farragut's Order 4. Run Like D Wind
Race 9—1. Ikaw Pag Asa Ko 2. Money Maker 3. King of Arabia 4. Perfect Gift 5. Galamay

Chito Loyzaga new PBL chair

THE ELDEST SON OF ARGUABLY THE GREATest Philippine basketball player the country has ever produced is the new chair of the Philippine Basketball League (PBL).

Chito Loyzaga, a former pro cager for 11 years who briefly served as team manager of San Miguel Corp. in the Philippine Basketball Association, was recently chosen by his peers in the PBL in his new capacity as Magnolia Dairy Ice Cream representative to the board.

"I'm happy with the trust and confidence they have given me," said Loyzaga, a member of the RP team that finished second behind China in the 1990 Beijing Asian Games. "I will do everything to help the league sustain its popularity and the success it gained in the past."

Chito, now 47, started his playing career in San Beda just like his famous father Carlos (The Big Difference) Loyzaga, who is now living in Australia. He played for several national teams before turning pro, first seeing action with Toyota and then with Ginebra San Miguel under Robert Jaworski.

Krzyzewski US Olympic coach

NEW YORK—DUKE UNIVERSITY'S MIKE Krzyzewski was picked to coach the US basketball team for the 2006 world championships and 2008 Beijing Olympics, a person familiar with the decision said on Wednesday.

The Hall of Famer was chosen during a USA Basketball conference call last week, said the person, who did not wish to be identified because the announcement has not been made. Official word was supposed to come on Oct. 29.

The American men are trying to regroup after finishing sixth at the 2002 world championships in the United States and third at the 2004 Olympics. The team at the Athens Games was without several top NBA players and was coached by Larry Brown. *AP*

Cards trip Astros in opener

ANDY Pettitte of the Astros throws against the Cards. AFP

ST. LOUIS—REGGIE Sanders continued his post-season hitting spree with a two-run homer to lead the St. Louis Cardinals to a 5-3 victory over the Houston Astros in Game One of the NLCS on Wednesday.

Sanders, who recorded 10 RBI in the three-game sweep of the San Diego Padres in the division series, staked St. Louis to a 2-0 first inning lead they would never relinquish to move 1-0 ahead in the best-of-seven series.

Game Two is also at Busch Stadium on Thursday.

"What a lift he (Sanders) has given us for four straight games," St. Louis manager Tony La Russa said.

"We still have a long way to go, so I don't want to pat him too much.

"I'm almost paranoid about chirping too much."

Chris Carpenter, who dominated the Astros this season going 4-0 with a 1.85 era, delivered another rock solid performance yielding two-runs on five hits over eight innings.

He then turned the game over to Jason Isringhausen, who came on in the ninth to get the final three outs and the save.

Carpenter, a leading NL Cy Young award candidate, helped his own cause driving in a run in the second inning.

"I thought I kept the ball down in the strike zone," said Carpenter, a 21-game winner during the regular season.

Astros starter Andy Pettitte ran into problems even before the start of the game when he was hit on the inside of his right knee with a line drive while running the bases during batting practice.

The lefthander insisted he was fine, but was tagged early as the Cardinals stormed to a 3-0 lead after just two innings.

David Eckstein led off the bottom of the first with a single to right then two outs later, Sanders took a 1-2 offering and parked into the left field stands. *Reuters*

White Sox nose out Angels

CHICAGO—JOE CREDE GAVE THE WHITE SOX what is sure to go down as one of the most disputed victories in playoff history Wednesday.

Given a second chance when plate umpire Doug Eddings called strike three—but not the third out—Chicago beat the Los Angeles Angels, 2-1, to even the best-of-seven American League championship series at a game apiece.

In a sequence as bizarre as any imaginable on a baseball field, A.J. Pierzynski struck out swinging against Angels reliever Kelvim Escobar, appearing to end the bottom of the ninth inning with the score tied at 1.

Escobar's low pitch was gloved by backup catcher Josh Paul—he appeared to grab it just before the ball would have hit the dirt. And, behind him, Eddings clearly raised his right arm and closed his first, signaling strike three. *AP*

Thailand's best boxers for SEAG

BRING THEM ON.

Amateur Boxing Association of the Philippines president Manny Lopez yesterday welcomed the news that Thailand is sending its world-class boxers in a bid to extend its reign in the 23rd Southeast Asian Games.

"I'm not surprised that Thailand is sending Olympic, World and Asian championships winners," said Lopez. "Traditionally Thailand has been sending its champions to the SEA Games."

Reports from the Bangkok Post said that Thailand is sending a crack team which includes Athens Olympics light welterweight gold medalist Manus Boonjumnong, silver medalist Worapoj Petchkoom and reigning world and Asian Games flyweight titleholder Somjit Jongjohor.

Lopez said the country has prepared long and hard to meet the Thai challenge head-on.

"Pound for pound, weight for weight, we're not going to give an inch to the Thais," said Lopez.

The Philippines-Thailand boxing rivalry has been one of the hot attractions in the SEA Games.

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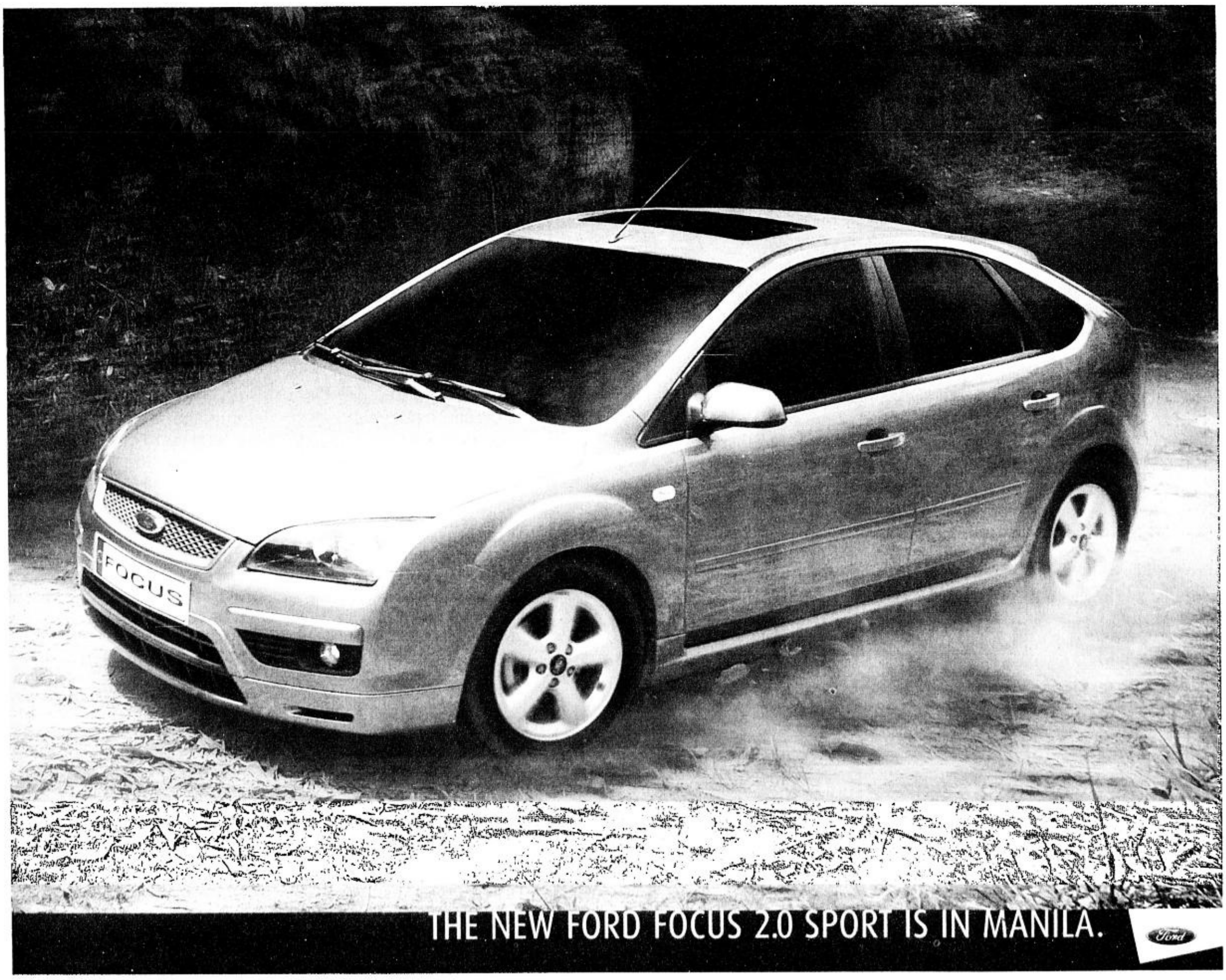

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THX

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G1 GLORIETTA 1	1 LORD OF WAR	2 DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO	3 DUBAI	4 THE 40 YEAR-OLD VIRGIN
G4 GLORIETTA 4	1 WALLACE & GROMIT	2 DUNGEONS & DRAGONS 2	3 THX LORD OF WAR 12 30, 3 00, 5 30, 8 00, 10 30 GUARANTEED SEATS	
	4 INTO THE BLUE	5 DUBAI	6 DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO	7 THE 40 YEAR-OLD VIRGIN
GB1 GREENBELT 1	1 SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL For more details, call 752-7865		2 SPANISH FILM FESTIVAL For more details, call 752-7865	
GB3 GREENBELT 3	1 THX LORD OF WAR 1:20, 3 50, 6 20, 8 50, 11 20 GUARANTEED SEATS		2 THX DEUCE BIGALOW:EUROPEAN GIGOLO 1 15, 3 15, 5 15, 7 15, 9 15, 11 15 GUARANTEED SEATS	
	3 INTO THE BLUE 1:30, 3 45, 6 00, 8 15, 10 30 GUARANTEED SEATS	4 CORPSE BRIDE 1 20, 3 10, 5 00, 6 50, 8 40, 10 30 GUARANTEED SEATS	5 THE 40 YEAR-OLD VIRGIN 1 40, 4 05, 6 30, 8 55, 11 20 GUARANTEED SEATS	
ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 THX DEUCE BIGALOW: EUROPEAN GIGOLO		2 LORD OF WAR	
	3 DUBAI	4 WALLACE & GROMIT	5 THE 40 YEAR-OLD VIRGIN	
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2. DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS 2
3. WALLACE & GROMIT
4. DUBAI
5. LORD OF WAR

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1 TRANSPORTER 2 • THX
1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

2 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

3 LORD OF WAR
12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00

4 THE 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00

5 WALLACE AND GROMIT
1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

6 CORPSE BRIDE
12:00 1:50 3:50 5:50 7:50 9:50

7 LAND OF THE DEAD
1:20 3:40 5:50 8:00 10:00

8 INTO THE BLUE
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00

9 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS 2
12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00

10 A HISTORY OF VIOLENCE
12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

ERMITA 536-7809 to 12

1 LORD OF WAR 12:25 2:45 5:05 7:25 10:00

2 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS 2
12:35 2:50 5:05 7:30 9:50

3 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
12:35 2:50 5:05 7:30 9:50

4 TRABAHO 11:00 1:45
CUT 3:40 5:30
DILIM 7:40 9:50

5 ANG DAAN PATUNGONG KALIMUGTONG 11:00 1:00
ALA VERDE ALA POBRE 3:00 5:30
MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE AND JOHN 8:00 9:50

6 TULI 10:40 1:00 3:20
ILUSYON 6:00 8:00 10:00

7 LILIA FOREVER 11:00 1:00 3:00
PALERMO HOLLYWOOD 5:40 7:40 9:50

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1 WALLACE AND GROMIT
11:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:10

2 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS 2
11:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:10

3 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
12:30 2:40 4:50 7:00 9:10

4 INTO THE BLUE
12:20 2:30 4:40 6:50 9:00

5 LORD OF WAR
1:05 3:45 5:25 9:15

6 THE 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN
1:40 4:00 6:20 9:00

7 TRANSPORTER 2
12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00

8 WILD SIDE
1:00 3:00 5:00 7:00 9:00

NOVALICHES 935-3231 / 935-3228-30

1 INTO THE BLUE
2 LORD OF WAR
3 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
4 TRANSPORTER 2

CITISQUARE MALABON 288-2575

1 INTO THE BLUE
2 THE DESCENT
3 RESERVE
4 RESERVE

PIONEER 687-5378

1 LORD OF WAR
2 DEUCE BIGALOW 2
3 WALLACE AND GROMIT
4 DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS 2

Local Digital Features

ALA VERDE ALA POBRE
(Ana Capri, Ebong Joson) ***Directed by:*** Bricio Santos

ANG DAAN PATUNGONG KALIMUGTONG
(Analyn Bangsi-il, Nemee Tocdangan, Rhenuel Ordono)
Directed by: Ramon De Guzman

CUT
(Joel Torre) ***Directed by:*** Jon Red

DILIM
(Rica Peralejo, Mario Magallona, Emilio Garcia)
Directed by: Topel Lee

ILUSYON
(Yul Servo, JC Parker)
Directed by: Paulo Villaluz / Eilen Ramos

MATTHEW, MARK, LUKE AND JOHN
(Richard Quan, Neil Ryan Sese, Maria Isabel Lopez)
Directed by: Gil Portes

TRABAHO
(Ping Medina, Sigrid Bernardo) ***Directed by:*** Ned Trespeces

TULI
(Desiree Del Valle, Carlo Aquino) ***Directed by:*** Aureus Solito

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Poor putting pull down RP golfers

THE PHILIPPINES STRUGGLED ALL DAY ON THE sleek putting surface of the Whispering Pines Golf course and settled for a combined 144 aggregate from its men's and ladies' teams for joint 19th among 24 teams at the start of the 2005 Spirit International Amateur Golf Championships in Houston Wednesday.

Gene Bondoc and Marvin Dumandan accounted for a 2-under 70, but Anya Tanpinco and Lora Roberto struggled in the best-ball format and limped home with a 74.

The combined scores of both the men's and ladies' squads serve as the team's total output, although separate competitions are also on tap in both divisions as well as in individual play.

South Africa led the biennial tournament with a sizzling 13-under 131 total.

"They've been hitting the ball well, but their putting was miserable," said National Golf Association of the Philippines vice president Danny Pizarro of the RP golfers, who are being supported by Enrique Razon through the NGAP and with assistance from the PSC.

"They need to practice more on putting. Hopefully, they will play better tomorrow (today)."

Bondoc set the RP bid in motion in the tournament, which gathered 24 countries from six continents, with a birdie-eagle feat from No. 4. But he failed to sustain the momentum and wavered at the backside with just two pars and seven pickups.

Dumandan accounted for just one par in the first nine holes, but made two birdies at the backside.

Bondoc and Dumandan stood in 17th place in men's play where Canada, Italy and South Africa led with 64s, while Tanpinco and Roberto were 19th in ladies' play paced by England with a 65.

Asistio goes wire-to-wire, wins by 5

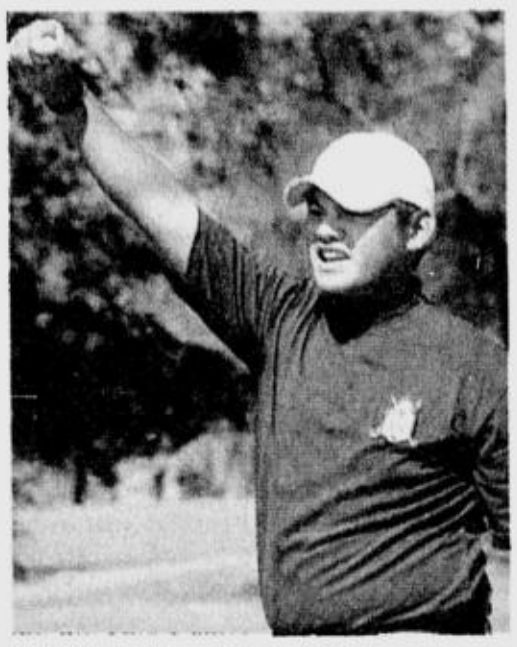
TONTON ASISTIO COMPLETED A WIRE-TO-wire triumph in the fourth leg of the Samsung Amateur Tour, carding a second straight 73 and still beating fellow national pool member Jay Bayron by five strokes at The Riviera's Langer course in Silang, Cavite, yesterday.

The 16-year-old Asistio totalled 285 in the four-day tournament sponsored by giant electronics firm Samsung. He opened up with a 70 and 69 at the hazard-laden par-71 layout.

Bayron, who will banner the RP team's title-retention campaign in the Hong Kong Amateur Open in Fanling on Oct. 26-29, faltered with a 75 and settled for second at 290 in the event organized by Professional Sports Management Group, Inc. headed by Boy Blue Ocampo.

Anthony Fernando carded a 74 and took third place at 301, while Rufino Bayron shot the day's best score of 72 to finish fourth at 302.

The youngest winner of the tour, Asistio will join early leg champions Erwin Vinluan (Royal Northwoods), Boyet Saragoza (Cagayan de Oro) and Michael Bibat (Camp John Hay) in the national finals set next year at the newly opened Summit Point Golf and Country Club in Lipa City.



ANOTHER victory: Tonton Asistio. PDI PHOTO

The fifth and final leg of the series, sponsored by KZG by Custom Clubmakers, Sun Bolt, C-Lium Fiber, Rudy Project, Microtel and Solar Sports Plus, will be played next month at the Ayala Greenfields Estate in Calamba, Laguna, with the other members of the national pool who failed to see action this week expected to join the hunt for the last slot in the finals.

The win underscored Asistio's status as the best jungolfer in the land today. He joined the tournament after securing a slot in next year's Philippine Open by finishing third behind champion Juvic Pagunsan and Artemio Murakami in the recent RP Amateurs.

Jun Bernis, the former RP Amateur champion, skied to an 82 after a 70 and tumbled down to fifth place in the tournament backed by Wave 89.1, Jam 88.3, 89.9, 99.5 RT, 103.5 K-Lite and Killer Bee as media partners with the Philippine Airlines as official carrier.

Kim Chang-hoi, winner of the grand finals last year, limped home with a 79 and wound up sixth at 310. The Korean bet is expected to go flat out in the final leg for the last slot.

Meanwhile, Raymund Sangil also ran away with the Class A crown by stringing rounds of 78-77 for 155 and a seven-stroke victory over Howard Sison, who had two 81s for a 162.

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BUENAVISTA wins the Asian King of the Road 10K race in Chungcheong, South Korea, last Oct. 2 with a time of 29:16.

King of Road turns away hundreds for Sunday race

ORGANIZERS OF THE ANNUAL ADIDAS KING of the Road turned away hundreds of runners after the starting field reached its limit for this Sunday's race that will start and end at the Adidas Sports Kamp at the Bonifacio Global City.

The 2,100 runners in the fold will be flagged off at exactly 6 a.m.

Runners will be using two lanes of Gil Puyat Ave. Motorists are advised to take alternate routes.

This year's King and Queen of the Road will each receive P20,000 worth of Adidas gear as well as P10,000 in cash. The top three finishers in the team category will also bring home P20,000, P15,000 and P10,000 worth of adidas gear.

Last year's winners Eduardo Buenavista and Mercedita Manipol are doubtful starters since they are busy training for the Southeast Asian Games slated here from Nov. 27-Dec. 5.

Manipol represented the country in the Adidas Queen of the Road race in South Korea last year and Buenavista carried the flag this year. Both topped the international event.

Some runners, however, complained that organizers turned them away even before the end of the deadline for registration last Wednesday.

KING/ A32

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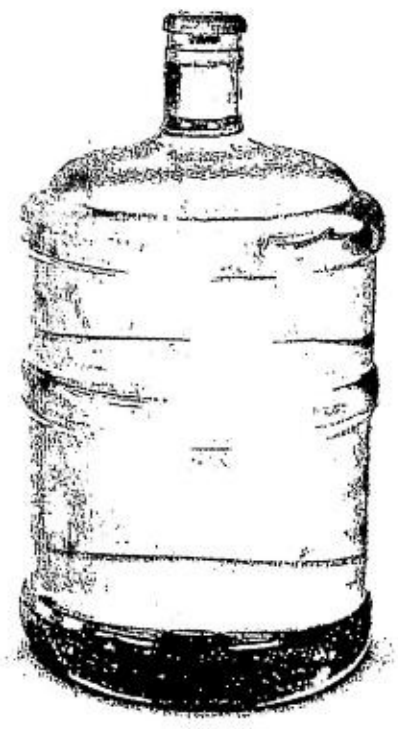

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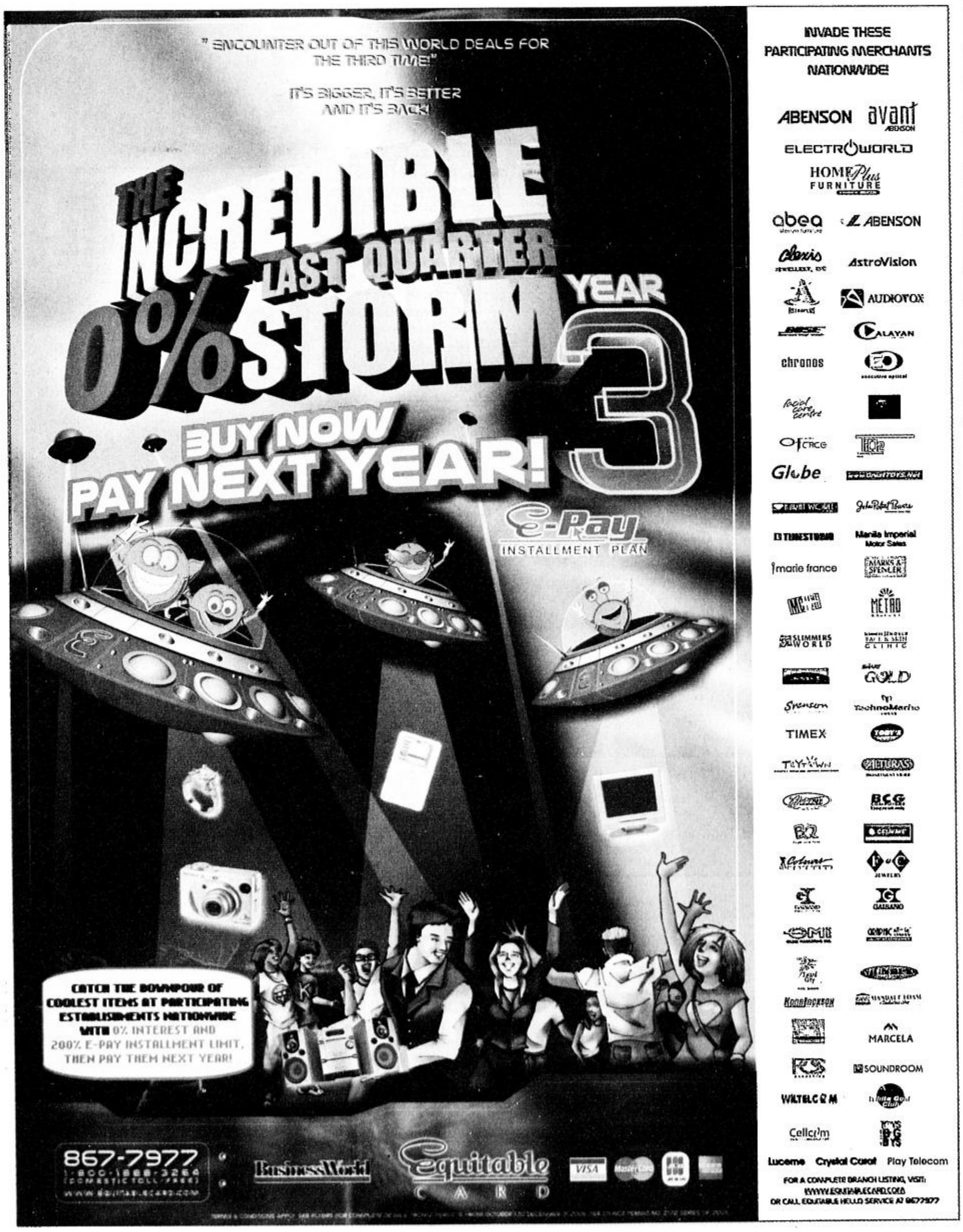

Sans Django, Bata, RP still formidable

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo

FORMER WORLD No. 1 Francisco "Django" Bustamante has been withdrawn from the Philippine "Dream Team" that will take part in this year's Southeast Asian Games. Meanwhile, Hall of Famer Efren "Bata" Reyes is a doubtful starter because of health problems.

The 41-year-old Bustamante injured his elbow and has been taking steroids to ease the pain. He was pulled out from the team by the Billiards and Snooker Congress of the Philippines to avoid the risk of disqualification since steroids is a prohibited drug in the SEA Games.

On the other hand, Reyes is having trouble with his eyes, one reason why the former world champion has been performing poorly in recent months. Reyes, too, is not getting any younger and, at 51, admits that he is slowly beginning to feel his age.

"*Nakakahiya* (it would be a shame) if I tested positive for taking an illegal drug," Bustamante was quouted as saying. "I don't want to embarrass the country." He said that due to the painful elbow, he may not be able to give his best in the SEA Games, where he is, whether he likes it or not, accountable to the nation and to the Filipino people.

I agree. As a member of the national team, Bustamante is duty-bound to give his all to flag and country. His participation in the SEA Games is funded by taxpayers' money, unlike in the professional tour in the United States where he travels on his own and thus is accountable only to himself.

But in my view, even without Bustamante and Reyes in the national team, the BSCP headed by Ernesto Fajardo and the sport's godfather Aristeo "Putch" Puyat, can still field a formidable squad in the SEA Games. The association has a deep and strong talent pool composed of veteran internationalists Gandy Valle, Ronnie Alcano, Rodolfo Luat, 2004 World Pool winner Alex Pagulayan, Lee Van Corteza, Antonio Gabica, Antonio Lining and Leonardo Andam. Snooker champ Marlon Manalo will miss the SEA Games because of a commitment abroad.

Puyat is also pinning his hopes on the ladies team, saying the women players have a stronger chance than the men to sweep the singles and doubles gold medals. He mentioned, in particular, Rubylen Amit, who beat four male players to qualify for the round of 36 in the Philippine Open slated Oct. 19-23.

"Rubylen quit her job in a call center to concentrate on her training for the Southeast Asian Games," said Puyat. "These lady players (Mary Ann Basas, Iris Ranola, Magda Say, Jhoanna Dee and Amit) are playing against the men as part of their training for the SEA Games."

* * *

FEU'S BEST AND BRIGHTEST: Far Eastern University, whose Tamaraws are the newly crowned 2005 UAAP men's basketball champions, also excelled in other sports such as weightlifting, boxing, swimming, tennis, baseball, track and field, gymnastics, volleyball and football. In FEU, there is no minor sports.

During my FEU days in the early 1960s, the school produced many national heroes. In basketball, the most celebrated personalities of the period were Manny Jocson, Boy Arazas and Romy Diaz and, much later, Turo Valenzona and Danny Gavieres. In previous years it was Gerry Cruz who was the campus heartthrob, while most recently, the campus idol was Johnny Abarrientos, a former PBA Most Valuable Player.

In swimming, FEU had the legendary Haydee Coloso-Espino, who was considered "Asia's Swim Queen" for winning a record 10 medals in three Asian Games, the last in Jakarta in 1962. But it was in boxing where the Morayta-based school made the biggest impact on Philippine sports.

Featherweight boxer Anthony Villanueva led the stellar cast by winning the country's first silver medal in the Olympics (1964 in Tokyo), achieving that marvelous feat during the term of the much admired sportsman-businessman Eugenio "Gene" Puyat, then president of the Amateur Boxing Association of the Philippines. *(To be continued)*

King of road. . . From page A31

The registration center on Annapolis Street in Greenhills, San Juan, ran out of race singlets as early as Oct. 7, and the organizers advised runners to register last Monday. But would-be entries were again told to come back last Tuesday due to another shortage of race singlets.

A representative of the runners' group Runners Plus came with forms and payment for 55 of his teammates but was told that the organizers had stopped accepting entries.

Chief organizer Rudy Biscocho said they decided not to entertain any more entries because they already reached the target of 2,100 runners.

The race's sixth edition is presented by Globe Gentext with support from Nissan Frontier Titanium 3. The race is also held in cooperation with Snickers Chocolate Bar, Cherifer Premium Multivitamins, Powerade, Viva Mineral Water, Milo and Blue Angel Alcohol. *With a report from Armin Adina*

E-mail: pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Emmie G. Velarde

ENTERTAINMENT

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Sutherland falls, Sarandon goes on a *chi* machine, Crowe grooves

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD

Ruben V. Nepales

LOS ANGELES—**Donald Sutherland**, the distinguished actor who is now sometimes referred to as the father of **Kiefer Sutherland**, fell off his chair when told there were plans to remake his acclaimed 1973 film, "Don't Look Now."

Interviewed recently at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel in New York, Donald used his acting skills to perfect timing when he dropped sideways to demonstrate his disbelief that Hollywood would even dare re-do such a venerated contemporary classic. It was the best reaction I've seen so far in the midst of the growing perception that Hollywood seems to be running out of fresh ideas.

"No! Really?" Donald exclaimed as he got up and sat again. "I just hurt my leg," he quipped with a smile.

"That movie had something unique," he added. "It had the stamp of (director) **Nick (Nicolas) Roeg** at his very best. I named my son **(Roeg Sutherland)** after him so I have a huge personal attachment to the film."

Aside from being considered one of the best British films ever made, "Don't Look Now" also has consistently topped surveys as having one of the sexiest scenes in cinema. The scene features Donald and **Julie Christie**.

Donald explained: "It's a scene where people make love. If that qualifies as a sex scene, fine. It involves a married couple who have just suffered the death of a child. Nick shot in a room with two actors who didn't know each other. It was a very hard scene to shoot. Nick took the material that he had and cut it together with them getting dressed so that you don't see them for more than 15 seconds. And then it's back to the couple getting dressed so that it takes you out of being a voyeur. You're not watching people making love—you're thinking of yourself making love and that's why it's so sexy. It's because eroticism is better."

Appearing as the patriarch Mr. Bennet in the entertaining new movie version of "Pride & Prejudice," Donald had a touching story to tell as the real-life father of "24" TV series star, Kiefer. The 70-year-old recalled a defining moment with his son who also has his share of acting awards: "Kiefer came down to my bedroom—this would have been, oh, God, how old is he now ... 38. So about 18 or 19 years ago, I was lying on my bed and Kiefer said, 'Dad, I have to do an audition tomorrow. Can I do it for you?' There's nothing more terrifying than having your son do an audition for you. So I said OK and I held my breath. He was absolutely wonderful. I was so relieved. I said, that's fantastic. But he said, 'That's the way they want me to do it. Can I show you how I want to do it?' I said OK."

Choking with emotion and a bit teary-eyed, Donald revealed, "He made me cry. What he did was so beautiful, pure and excellent that I carry it with me to this day. It was such a gift that he gave me—that child."

This Golden Globe and Emmy award-winning Canadian who is **Keira Knightley's** father in "Pride" was a fascinating interviewee, alternately touching and funny. He joked about his angular looks, which were more pronounced in his younger days when he was leaner. He said, "This cute woman came walking across and she stopped in front of me. She said, 'You're Donald Sutherland, aren't you? You're not nearly as ugly as you are on the telly (laughter)."

Susan Sarandon

SUSAN Sarandon will portray tobacco billionairess and **Imelda Marcos'** late friend, **Doris Duke**, in "Doris and Bernard." In an LA interview for another movie, the **Orlando Bloom-Kirsten Dunst** starrer "Elizabethtown," the actress stated, "I want to play someone I haven't played before and who's not like myself. That's why I'm about to play Doris Duke who is about a foot taller and very different."

"And richer," a reporter volunteered.

"Definitely richer," Susan agreed with a smile. "And temperamentally, very different from me. I just found that the relationship she had with the man (**Bernard Lafferty**, her gay butler) toward the end of her life was so strange and compelling. The man has to be the right actor and in this case, it is going to be **Ralph Fiennes**."

When a writer commented "Yummy" at the mention of Ralph's name, Susan laughed (and I'm sure my editor will also laugh and agree when she reads this).

Asked for her secret in being able to juggle many roles—actress, wife (to actor **Tim Robbins**, an Oscar winner like she is), mother and socially committed citizen, Susan declared, "I had to learn to forgive myself for not being perfect. I feel sometimes very much like a dilettante because I don't ever seem to be able to do something as thoroughly as I'd like to, whether it has something to do with my kids or the UN (she is a Unicef goodwill ambassador) or whatever. I had to relinquish control in a lot of ways. For example, I just look at my house as a mess and say, that's just fine."

And what does she do when she is upset? Those famous large eyes glowing with mirth, Susan stated, "I have a *chi* machine. Do you know what it is? You lie down and put your heels on this machine and it massages and balances you. It's also guaranteed to make Tim laugh every single time he sees me on that (laughter). He thinks it's the most ridiculous thing he has ever seen."

On how she and companion Tim manage to keep their relationship, the respected actress shared, "We don't talk about it too much. That's probably my first rule. I'm very superstitious. The minute I start bragging about how fabulous our relationship is, you'll see like what happens to those couples in People magazine. By the time the next issue comes out, they're not together anymore."

Cosmetic surgery does not appeal to the 59-year-old actress. "You're fighting a losing battle if

SUTHERLAND/ A2-2

SUSAN Sarandon is set to play Doris Duke.

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COLUMBIA PICTURES

Sutherland falls, Sarandon goes . . .

From page A2-1

you're trying to stay looking the way you did when you were 30 or 20," she dissed. "That's a little creepy—a woman who's 65 and looks like she's 20. I start thinking, burn victim. It's like, what's wrong with this picture?"

Cameron Crowe

MEETING Susan's "Elizabethtown" director, **Cameron Crowe**, thrilled me. Something about the geeky budding journalist protagonist in Cameron's "Almost Famous" struck a resonant chord in me for some reason. Cameron's handling of that young man's odyssey in "Almost Famous" made me a fan of that film.

Long-haired and laid-back, the man whose movies are anticipated as much for their autobiographical content as for

DONALD Sutherland, Kiefer's dad

their soundtrack (he is a rock and roll aficionado), Cameron riffed about his mother, **Alice Crowe**: "My mom has always done bit parts in my movies. I told her that the mother character in 'Almost Famous' was sort of based on her. When she arrived on the set, I told her, 'Leave the actress (**Frances McDormand**, who played the mom role) alone—she has won an Oscar and she can play this part. Please don't talk to her.'

"But my mom really thought she knew what she was doing. I turned around and within minutes, she's got Frances up against the wall (laughter) and she's talking like this (he gestured animatedly) and I was dying. But Frances said a great thing to my mom. She said, 'Alice, it's not going to be you. It's not going to be me. It's going to be another person—the character.' That really worked with my mom.

"I also told her to leave Susan Sarandon alone. But sure enough, there she was talking to Susan. Susan also said a great thing to me later. She said, 'Normally, I don't like to meet and hang around the people who are basically the characters that I am portraying. But I learned more about my character by talking to your mom than by talking to you, so thank you.'"

When asked how many more sort-of-autobiographical stories we could expect from him, Cameron chuckled and said, "I've been thinking about that a lot. Let me see—we've covered my mom, father and sister..."

"You," a journalist volunteered.

"Me," he agreed and grinned. "It does come from writing about who you know. But there's something about this movie and 'Almost Famous' that felt more personal.

SUTHERLAND/ A2-3

FESTIVAL OF FESTIVALS

CINEMANILA and the CITY OF MANILA present its line-up of exciting events for this year's most-awaited festival:

- Opening Night
- Screenings of acclaimed local & foreign films
- Local Digital Film Competition
- Philippine Digital Film Panorama
- Young Cinema Night
- Awards Night
- Raymond Red Retrospective
- Korean Cinema Focus (Tribute to Kim Dong Ho and the Pusan International Film Festival)
- Nordic Lights Program
- Lifetime Achievement Award
- International Night
- Mayor's Day
- 2nd Boracay Co-Production Meeting

OPENING FILMS

Hidden Blade by YOJI YAMADA

The Child by JEAN-PIERRE & LUC DARDENNE

•Cinemanila astig. Cinemanila orig. Cinemanila, cinema natin.

7th CINEMANILA international film festival

12-25 October 2005
SM and Robinson cinemas in Manila and selected Metro Manila cinemas

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

TV GUIDE
Friday, October 14, 2005

Provided by ClickTheCity.com

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Channel	6:00PM	6:30PM	7:00PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:30PM	9:00PM	9:30PM	10:00PM	10:30PM	11:00PM	11:30PM	12:00AM	12:30AM	1:00AM	1:30AM	2:00AM	2:30AM	3:00AM	3:30AM
NBN		Value Vision		New Life TV Shopping		Teledyaryo	Diyos Ko Mahal Mo Ba Siya?	GSIS Member's Hour		Tinig ng Bayan (Live)		Teledyaryo				Kamao		Bantay OCW With Susan K		
ABS-CBN 2	Kapamilya Cinema				Pasion de Amor	Mr. Bean	Naruto	Amazing Twins	Meteor Garden Season 2	TV Patrol World	Mga Anghel Na Walang Langit	Vietnam Rose	Kamperang Kuba	Ikaw Ang Lahat Sa Akin	Pinoy Big Brother	24			Insider	
ABC 5			EZ Shop		PBA				Sentro	PBA					Big News	Real Stories		ESPN Golf		
GMA 7	Kung Mamahalin Mo Lang Ako	Now and Forever	Hotelier	12 Kingdoms	Slam Dunk	All For Love		24 Oras		Extra Challenge		Dama	Encantadia	Sugo	My Sassy Girl	Bubble Gang			Saksi	
RPN 9	TV Shopping		Defenders Of The Earth	Hey Arnold!	Krusada Kontra Kramen		Global Battle Of The Bands	Entertainment Tonight		WWE Smackdown		Boarding House		The OC		Newswatch Now	TV Greats On Friday			
IBC 13		EZ Shop		EZ Shop		Home Shopping Network	IBC Express Balita	Lifestyle		Global Family Series		ME TV		Men of Power	Sports X-Press	King Of Adventure	IBC News Tonite	Home Shopping Network		
SBN 21		New Life TV Shop						Winner TV Shopping				Oras Ng Himala		Oras ng Katotohanan		Music Video		Oras Ng Himala		
Studio 23								The Batman	Pinoy Big Brother	Wazzup Wazzup		Barkada Nights				News Central	Oprah		Just Shoot Me	
MTV Philippines	MTV Hits	Buzzworthy	Mush		Trippin	Pop Inc		MTV Hits				Get Hitched	Get Spotted	Dyes		Wade Robson Project	Trippin	Pop Up	VH1 Video Collections	
MYX		Rock MYX	My MYX	Mellow MYX	Urban MYX	Take 5	OPM MYX		Star MYX	MYXILOG	Pop MYX	MYX Daily Top Ten		Club MYX	MYX Versions	Urban MYX	My MYX	MYX Backtrax	OPM MYX	
CNN		Business International		Larry King Live		World News	World Sport	Business International		World News	World Sport	World News Asia		World News	World Sport	World News Asia		Your World Today		
ESPN												Sportscenter Asia								
Solar Sports			Davis Cup 2005					Fight	2005 Asian Man Championship				Sports Desk					Sports Desk	NBA Inside Stuff	
Sports Plus							Superbowl Stories			World's Greatest Auto Shows		Monster Jam		FMX	Little Rock Show A	Inside the PGA	Greater Hickory Classic Highlights		Michelin Championship at Las Vegas Day1	
Cinemax	Last Train From Gun Hill (2:45 PM)			High School High (4:15 PM)			Demolition Man (5:45 PM)				Return To Cabin By The Lake			Pink Cadillac				Bad Boys II		
Hallmark Channel	Bewitched	Judging Amy		HCA: The Fairytaler	Sesame Street		Mad About You	Bewitched	The Nanny	Mysterious Way		Judging Amy		Gracie's Choice			Wife Swap (10:35PM)		Mysterious Way	
Disney Channel	Mr Bean: The Animated Series	Totally Spies	Art Attack/Uncle Kwame Bunny	Sabrina: The Animated Series	Mickey Mouse and Friends	Martin Mystery	Totally Spies	Kim Possible	Mr Bean: The Animated Series	That's So Raven	Wonderful World Of Disney			Brandy & Mr. Whiskers		Mickey Mouse and Friends	Chip N Dale's Rescue Rangers	Wonderful World Of Disney		
Discovery Channel		Power Zone				Wild Discovery				The Most Extreme		American Chopper						Crime Night		
National Geographic		Harem Conspiracy		Tomb Robbers		Royal Mummy		Top 5		Wow!		About Asia		Nat'l Geographic Specials		Seconds From Disaster				
Cartoon Network	Yogi Bear Show	The All New Popeye Show		Tom & Jerry Show	Baby Looney Tunes	What's New Scooby Doo?	Johnny Bravo	Justice League Unlimited	The Batman	SD Gundam Force	Machine Robo: Rescue	The Life & Times Of Juniper Lee	What's New Scooby Doo?	The Grim Adventures Of Billy & Mandy		Samurai Jack	Time Squad	Justice League Unlimited	The Batman	
Nickelodeon	Blues Clues/ What Planet Are You From	Rugrats	Hey Arnold!	My Life As A Teenage Robot/ Right On Top	The Adventures Of Jimmy Neutron	SpongeBob SquarePants	The Fairly Odd Parents	All That	Naturally Sadie	Sabrina: The Teenage Witch	Drake & Josh	Romeo	All Grown Up	As Told By Ginger	Rocket Power	Chalkzone	The Wild Thornberrys	The Angry Beavers	Are You Afraid of the Dark?	
Lifestyle Network	Country Style	Interiors By Design	Decorating With Style	Decorating Cents	Moto Mario	Sweet Dreams	30 Minute Meals	Bill Boggs Corner	Unwrapped	Ming's Quest	El True Hollywood Story		Behind The Velvet Ropes	Life & Style		Guess Who's Coming To Decorate				
Star World		The Bold & The Beautiful		Hollywood Squares	Whose Line Is It Anyway?	Buffy The Vampire Slayer		The Simpsons	The Drew Carey Show	Star News Asia	Friends	TNA Wrestling		The Collector		Angel		Friends	Karen Sisco	
AXN		24		24		The World's Most Shocking Moments Caught On Tape		Alias (Season III)		The Contender		30 Seconds To Fame	E Buzz	Alien Hunter				Fright Night		
JackTV	Family Guy	Stripperella	The Sib Show	WWE Smackdown				Sweat	Just For Laughs (Gags)	Mad TV		Joe Schmo Show		Detroit Rock City				Worst Case Scenario		
ETC		Simple Life	Knock First	1 Hr Edited Version Of Today Show		Elimidate	Change of Heart	Seinfeld	Ambush Makeover	Arrested Development	GBB	Joan Of Arcadia		Average Joe		Entertainment Tonight	The Insider	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno		
HBO			To Gillian On Her 37th Birthday			Charlotte Gray				Fatal Attraction				Changing Lanes			Congo (10:45PM)			
Star Movies			Mystery, Alaska (3:45 PM)				Three Men And A Little Lady				Torn Apart (7:25 PM)			Good Boy!			Hollow Man			
Cinema One		Everlasting Love				Pahuram Kahit Sandali				Habang May Buhay				Kaswang Batas				Urban Rangers		
EWTN	Deep Conversation Deep Prayer	Angelus (3:15 PM)	Stations Of The Cross	Angel Force	Adventures In Odyssey	Rosary With Mother Angelica	EWTN Gallery	Theology Of The Body	Defending Life	Life on The Rock Encore		Daily Mass Live		Angelus (9:15 PM)	Miracles Of The Cross	EWTN Bookmark	Backstage	Father Corapi And The Catechism Of The Catholic Church		

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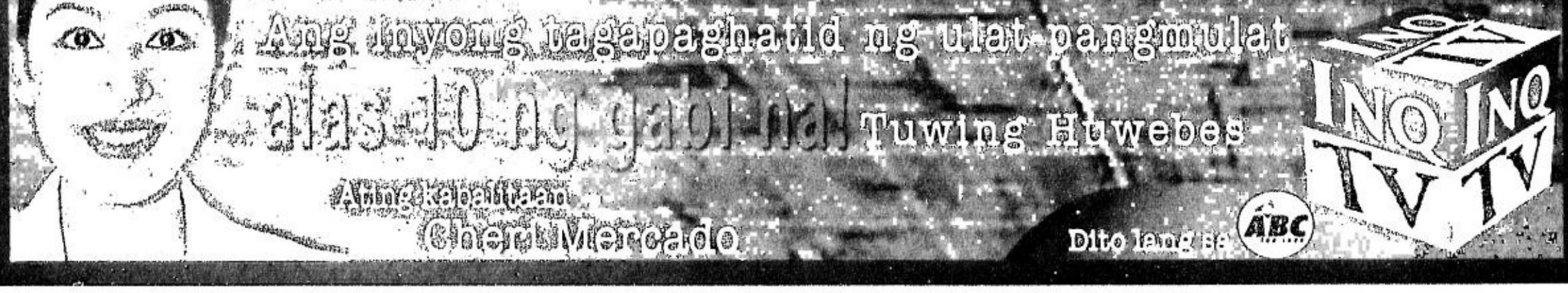


'The Lady is a Champ'

SHOW TIME

"WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?" THE emcee asked Rizza Navales. She had just received a gold medal for the Philippines during the finals of "World Championship of the Performing Arts" (Aug. 6 to 13) at the Hilton Hotel in Burback, California.

"I thought they had made a mistake and they were going to take the medal back," Riza recalled. "It turned out, I was supposed to remain onstage to receive more gold medals. To think I earlier said I would be happy to bring home a bronze!"

Another big winner during that international competition also known as Talent Olympics was Jed Madela. Together, they brought home 11 golds.

Rizza will hold a free concert for the benefit of the nuns in Carmel of Joseph monastery in Lipa City. Titled "The Lady is a Champ," the show will be held at the Carlos P. Romulo Auditorium RCBC Plaza, Ayala Avenue, Makati, on Oct. 28. Jed is her special guest.

RIZZA Navales

R Merk's birthday

RICHARD Merk marks his birthday with a fund-raising show tonight, with sax player Eddie K and keyboard master Romy Posadas, at the Grand Ballroom of Dusit Hotel.

"Instead of gifts," Richard said, "I appeal to my friends to just give to the Eucharistic Community of the Order of Laity." ECOL is one of the ministry arms of the Cathedral of the King, 833 Sheridan St., Mandaluyong City. Call (0917) 895-0330.

MYMP

Barbie at Robinsons

EAST Wing, the lifestyle hub of Robinsons Galleria, marks its second anniversary with a three-day musical featuring Barbie Almabis today, Paolo Santos tomorrow, and Rock Steady on Oct. 16. Call 683-6100 locals 780 and 782.

Tomorrow

SIDE A and Freestyle will perform at the Marikina Freedom Park in front of the City Hall. The event opens a Teens Headquarters (THQ), a franchise model of the Foundation for Adolescent Development, Inc. THQ's objective is to provide education that can help teeners become socially, emotionally, spiritually and sexually responsible.

Oct. 18

LAY OUT the welcome mat for the pinup girls next door in the lingerie show, "Mga Babae sa Magasin," 8 p.m. at Boysles' Bar, M.H. del Pilar corner Quirino Ave., Manila. Martha Daniels leads the bevy of exciting models. Tickets at P500 and P350 available at the door.

Oct. 20

HARD Rock Café presents "Nite Trip at Hard Rock featuring Anna Fegi." Call 893-4661 to 63.

Nov. 12

BANTAY Kalikasan presents an outdoor jazz festival at the La Mesa Ecopark ampitheater, featuring Verni Varga, Mitch Valdes, Bituin Escalante, UP Jazz Ensemble, John Lesaca, Mishka Adams, Richard Merk, Joey Ayala, Grace Nono, Pinikpikan and many more. Call 415-2227 or 410-9670.

Nov. 18

MYMP—Juris Fernandez and Chin Alcantara—star in their first major concert, "MYMP Best," at the Araneta Coliseum. Special guests are Jay Durias, Duncan Ramos and Vince Alaras of South Border. Call 911-5555.

Nov. 19

TERI de Sario and Joe Pizzulo—big stars of the '70s—will be in Manila next month for a much awaited back-to-back concert at the Araneta Coliseum. "Back 2 Basics" will also feature local artists Luke Mejares, Passage Band and Nina. Call 911-5555.

MARTHA Daniels

Sutherland falls, Sarandon goes . . .

From page A2-2

Your nerves get a little jangly. You feel a little bit of personal responsibility when you show the movie to family members who know that part of the story is based on personal experiences. So I am always thinking, next time, I'll be going in a slightly different direction to take a break. That was one of the reasons I did 'Vanilla Sky' after 'Almost Famous.'"

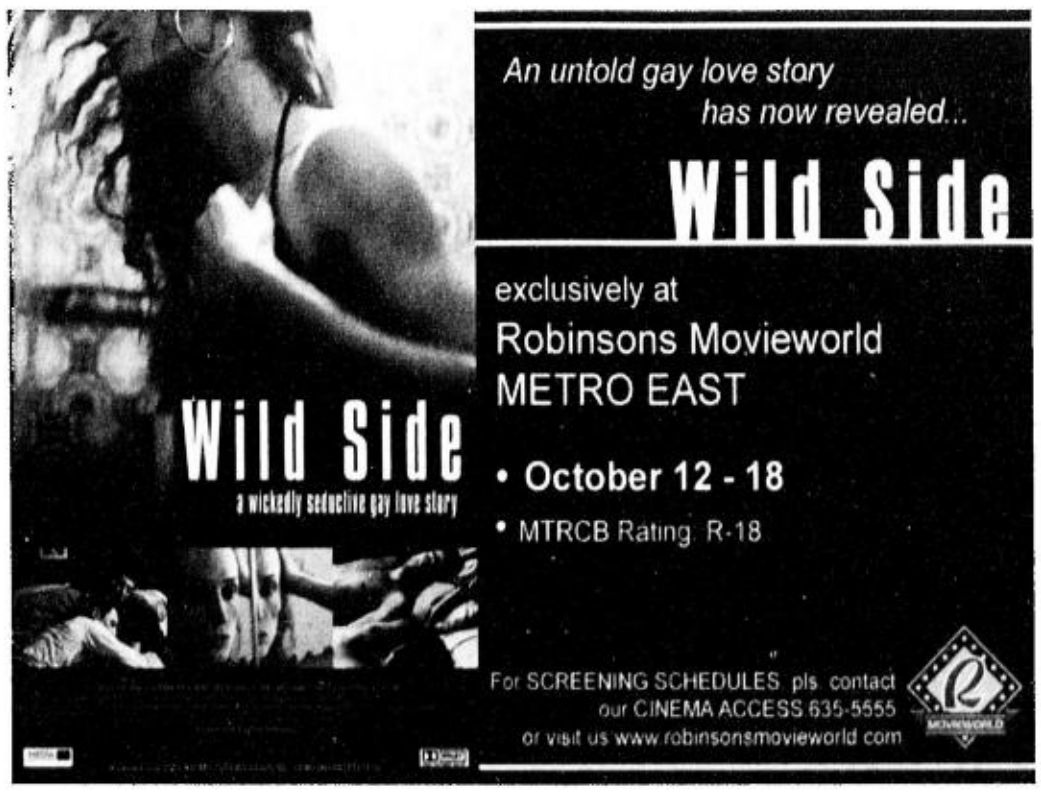
He confirmed to me that in "Elizabethtown," Orlando's character, a man whose trip to arrange his father's burial becomes a personal journey of coming to terms with himself (yes, the soundtrack is filled with memorable song choices by Cameron and his wife and film scorer, Nancy Wilson of the now-defunct rock group Heart).

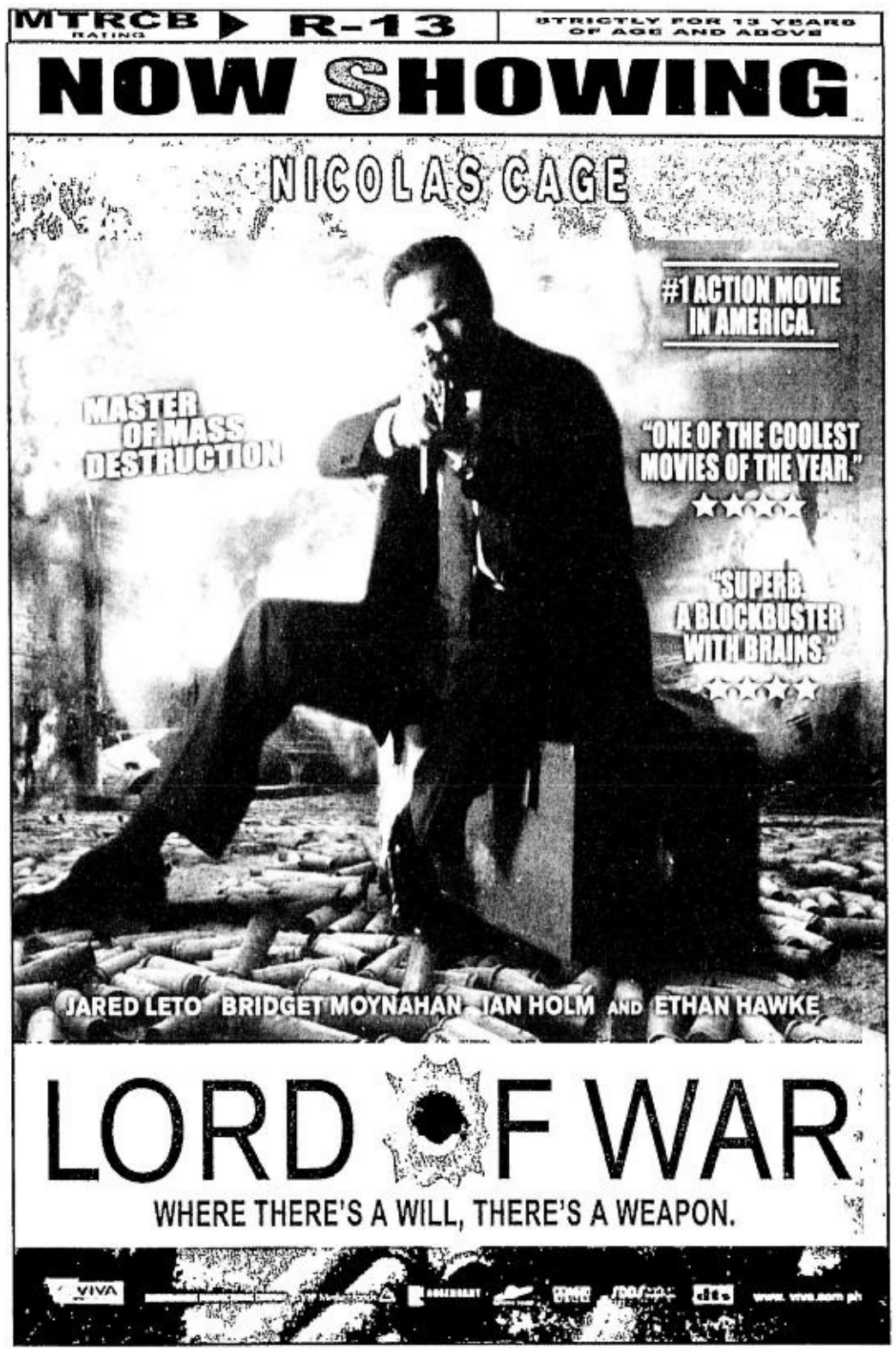
"My dad passed away right after the first movie I made as a director was released," Cameron began. "He died in Kentucky visiting his friends and family and, just like Orlando's character in the movie, I had to go back to Kentucky, which felt so very far away but yet was filled with my family. My dad, just like the father in the movie, wrote letters. I had no idea how many letters he wrote that were filled with so much information.

"When I went to Kentucky to deal with his funeral, all these people knew everything that had been going on in my life and in the life of my wife, Nancy. They knew every bit of how we struggled to get 'Say Anything' made.

"I felt that here were these people who were, in many ways—strangers—but they look like you, they know you and they are your family. That experience came out later about three summers ago when I wanted to write about claiming a family you didn't know and how they can affect you so much in a time of crisis."

(E-mail the columnist at rvnepales_5585@yahoo.com.)





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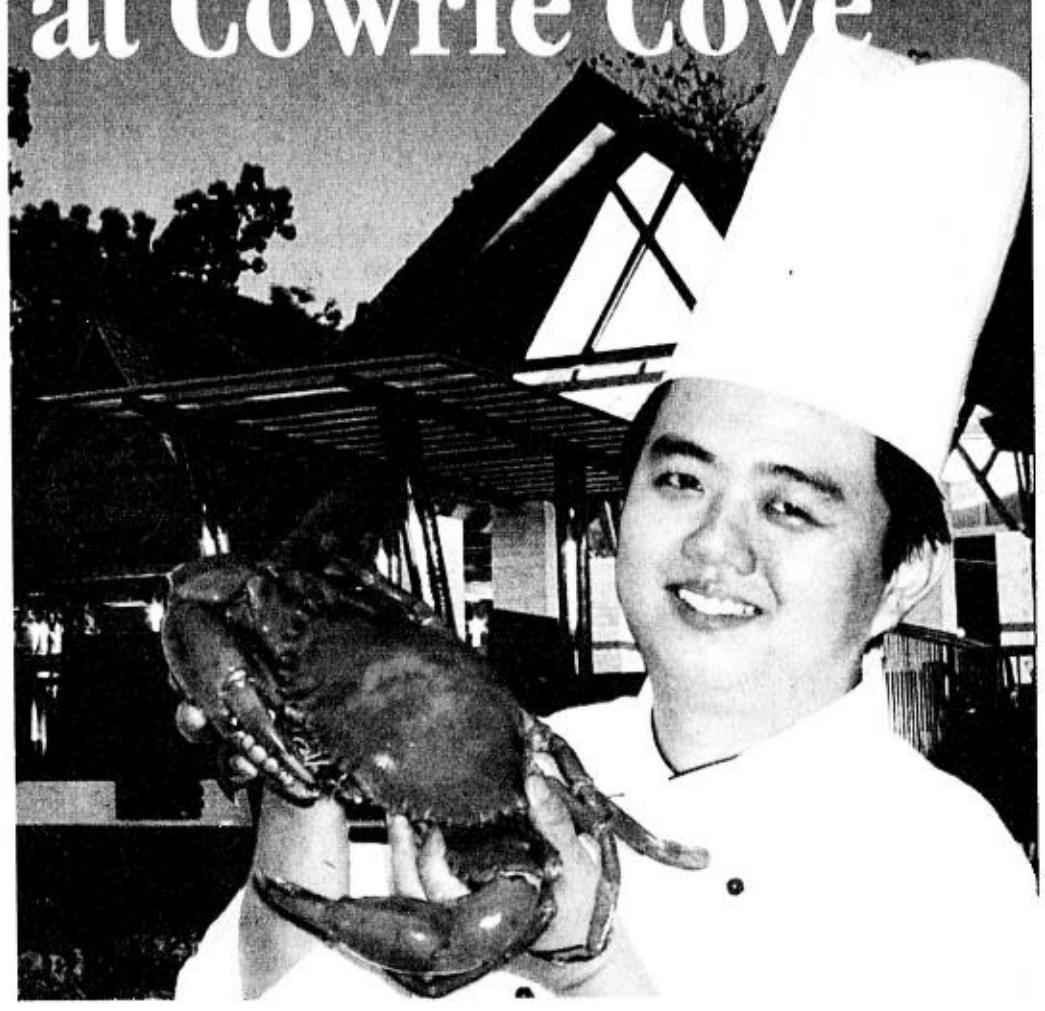
Savor Singapore at Cowrie Cove



SAVOR THE UNIQUE FLAVORS OF THE LION City from Oct. 13 to 20 at Shangri-La's Mactan Island Resort & Spa's Cowrie Cove as special guest chef Tay Boon Aik of Traders Hotel Singapore takes you on a gastronomic journey with his culinary creations.

Chef Tay is the seafood expert of Ah Hoi's Kitchen which is popular in Singapore for its authentic local dishes. His crab specialties are cooked in various ways to satisfy even the most discriminating gourmand. As guest chef of Cowrie Cove, Chef Tay brings together the distinct traditional flavors of Singapore with a touch of local fare by using the Filipino crab, *alimango*. Relish Singaporean dishes like the famous Ah Hoi's Chili Crab wok fried in Singaporean Sambal chili paste, Asian Black Pepper Crab, Spring Onion & Ginger Crab braised in oyster sauce and young ginger and other exquisite dishes.

Experience Singapore in Cebu. This weeklong Singapore Food Festival at Cowrie Cove runs from Oct. 13 to 20 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Buffet available on Thursdays and a la carte for the rest of the week.

For the ultimate Singapore experience, get a chance to win a roundtrip ticket to Singapore sponsored by Silk Air and a weekend stay at Traders Hotel Singapore when ordering from the Singapore Food Festival menu.

Cowrie Cove is Shangri-La's Mactan Island Resort & Spa's premier seafood restaurant. Feast on a variety of live seafood and have them cooked in various ways to satisfy your every craving. Dine under a canopy of stars or in air-conditioned comfort. Located on the oceanfront, the restaurant offers unrestricted views of the horizon and stylish architecture to give one a dining experience like no other.

Reservations recommended. Call the restaurant reservations and information center at 231-8224.

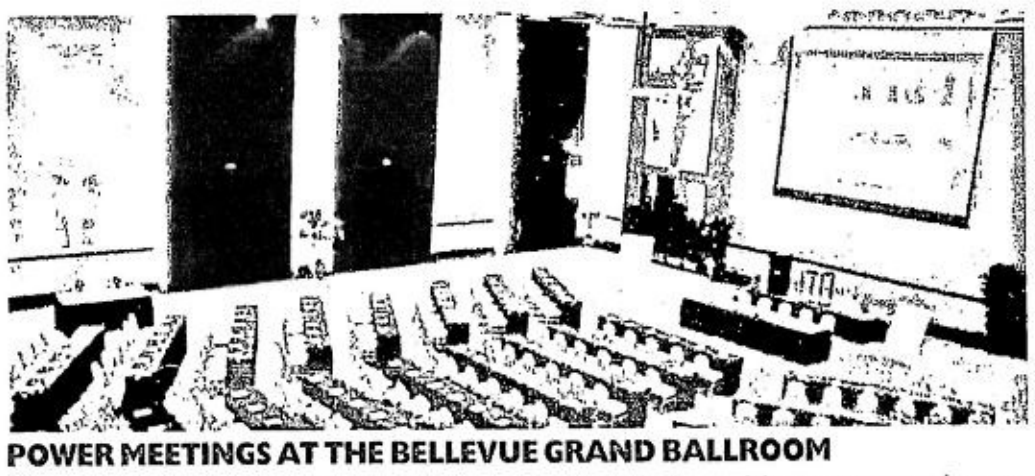
BFAD CONDUCTS WORKSHOP AT THE EXECUTIVE PLAZA HOTEL

The Bureau of Food and Drugs, in cooperation with the Department of Health and World Health Organization, recently arranged a National Workshop on Promoting Ethical Practices in Medicines Registration and Procurement. The meeting was held at the Aguinaldo Ballroom of The Executive Plaza Hotel. Shown are the delegates of the conference with (second row, seated, from left) Nazarita T. Lanuza, Dr. Kenneth Ronquillo, Undersecretary Alexander A. Padilla, Dr. Budiono Santoso, Caroline Belisario and Dr. Ma. Luisa Rebullida. The event was facilitated by Edeliza Lazatin, account manager of The Executive Plaza Hotel.

Wine Flights Festival at City Garden Suites

GREAT NEWS TO ALL WINE AFICIONADOS, as City Garden Suites-Manila's Café Miranda Bar & Restaurant launches its Wine Flights Festival. This enticing promo has five varieties of packages to choose from. For as low as P205, the WFF package 1 consists of three wine flights from Luna Di Luna from Italy, Shanwari from South Africa and Isla Nora Rose from Chile, which comes with free baked garlic mushroom; Priced at P225, WFF package 2 consists of three Merlot wine flights from Luna di luna from Italy, Shanwari from South Africa, Isla Negra Rose from Australia with free Spicy Green Shells (Tahong in Green Chillies and Coconutcream); Priced at P295, WFF Package 3 consists of three Cabernet Sauvignon wine flights from Chile and free Crostinis (crispy French bread with various toppings); For packages 4 and 5, prices range from P335 to P525, inclusive are wine flights of Cabernet Sauvigon and Australian Wines and free delicious pica-pica.

City Garden Suites Manila offers top class room accommodation for as low as P1,800.



POWER MEETINGS AT THE BELLEVUE GRAND BALLROOM

Discuss corporate strategies and hold team-building seminars in a venue conducive to productivity and efficiency. The Bellevue Grand Ballroom, the businessman's preferred hotel at the south of Metro Manila, offers meeting packages ideal for conferences, forums and seminars from a minimum of 150 to a maximum of 800 participants. Brainstorm strategic business solutions or forge strong relations with company employees through half-day or whole-day meetings. The Bellevue Grand Ballroom has the necessary audio-visual equipment and meeting facilities for groups of any size. Plus, take advantage of exposure in major dailies through post-event press releases. Achieve business goals through power meetings held only at The Bellevue Grand Ballroom. For inquiries, call 771-8181.

Edsa Shang launches its Japanese restaurant

EDSA SHANGRI-LA, MANILA unveiled its Japanese restaurant Senju Sep. 8. Formerly known as Nishiki, Senju launches a new array of authentic Japanese menu offering "a feast of a thousand pleasures."

Senju is Japanese for "a thousand happiness", an endless supply of bliss and contentment. Edsa Shangri-La's Senju signifies the exhilarating experience of Japanese cuisine that brings joy in boundless ways. Its freshness and authenticity delights the palate while its atmosphere, resonating with high-spirited gatherings with family, friends, or business associates, nourishes one's well-being. A river from which positive energy flows constantly, Senju combines splendid meals, good company, hearty laughter and great conversation.

Edsa Shangri-La's Senju is one of only eight international restaurants operated by Restaurant Suntory with headquarters in Tokyo, Japan.

A distinct feature of any Suntory-operated restaurant is the *kaiseki*. Widely considered the height of Japanese cuisine, it combines harmony between food and nature, which reflects the changes of the season. Another highlight of Senju is teppanyaki, true to its form as invented and refined by the Japanese.

Senju's new resident Japanese chef Kiyoshi Ogawa has over a decade of recognition and rave reviews from food critics tucked under his belt.

Senju can accommodate 130 persons and is located at Edsa Shangri-La, Manila's Mezzanine Level. It is open for lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and dinner from 6:30 to 10 p.m. daily. A buffet of all-time favorite Japanese dishes is available for lunch every Sunday. For inquiries and reservations, call 634 7373 or 633-8888 extensions 2738 and 2739.

BUSINESS

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WHAT'S INSIDE

Telcos take Sun suit to higher court /B3

SMC tests beer in plastic bottles /B5

Megaworld spending ₱7B for Newport City

Initial investment solely for urban resort's 1st phase

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

PROPERTY DEVELOPER Megaworld Corp. is earmarking P7 billion for the first phase of its 25-hectare hotel and residential project, dubbed the Newport City, at the Villamor Air Base in Pasay City, investor relations officer John Hao yesterday said in a briefing.

Hao said the first phase—involving the construction of a 350-room Marriott Hotel, a residential enclave, and a commercial and sports complex—would be completed in three to four years.

Funding for the initial phase will come largely from the company's cash pile and earnings from the preselling of units.

Marriott Hotel in Newport City will be the second in the country after that in Cebu. Megaworld said it had tapped Hirsch Bedner Associates to design the hotel's interior including the grand lobby.

Megaworld is also building a 3.2-ha, 16-building residential resort. This will be the first residential cluster in Newport City.

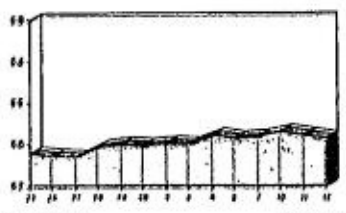
It will offer studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom units. A 36.5-square meter executive studio unit will be sold for about P1.9 million. A 47-square-meter one-bedroom unit will cost about P2.6 million. The two-bedroom units come in two types—the combined two-bedroom residence which is 73 sq.m. priced at about P3.8 million and the regular two-bedroom residence, which is 57 sq.m. and worth P3.2 million.

Newport City will be developed on a property owned by the Bases Conversion Development Authority (BC-

MEGAWORLD/ B5

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES



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¥ 114.83 = $ 1

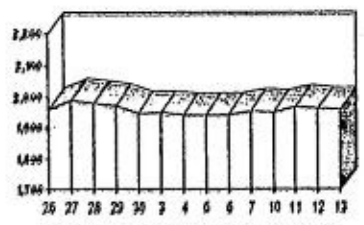
As of 5 p.m., Oct. 13, 2005

GOLD: $478.30-478.80

per ounce Hong Kong, Oct. 12, 2005

STOCK MARKET

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



(See stock market report on Page B4)

Shares down 0.16%

SHARE PRICES YESTERDAY closed 0.16 percent lower, with investors largely marking time in the absence of any fresh positive leads, dealers said.

However, last-minute buying in index heavyweight Philippine Long Distance Telephone (PLDT) provided some support to the market after Moody's put the company's ratings on review for possible upgrade.

The Philippine Stock Exchange composite index fell 3.25 points to 1,955.01 after trading between 1,953.09 and 1,963.29 points. Volume was 404.3 million shares worth P1.05 billion.

The broader all-shares index fell 2.63 points to 1,184.83.

Losers led gainers 37 to 23, with 56 stocks unchanged.

"There's not much action today because investors are waiting for new leads," said Rommel Macapagal of Westlink Global Equities. *AFP*

Gov't OKs start of $100-M Didipio mining project

By Christine A. Gaylican

THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND Natural Resources has approved the start of commercial operations of Australian firm Climax Mining Ltd.'s $100-million Didipio copper-gold project in Nueva Viscaya.

The Didipio mine is one of 23 key projects identified by the government for development to revive the country's mining sector and feed a China-led surge in demand for minerals.

"We have secured the agency's approval with the declaration of our mining project's feasibility by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources," said Climax Mining Ltd. chair James Askew in an interview yesterday at the sidelines of the Asia Pacific Mining Conference here in Manila.

Askew said this would allow the company to discuss project financing with creditors as the company intended to raise $80 million of the cost through loans and $20 million by equity from shareholders.

"There are now discussions with six banks and they will soon conduct due diligence on the project," he added.

Australasian Philippines Mining Inc., the local unit of Climax, has a contract area of 23,895 hectares at Didipio.

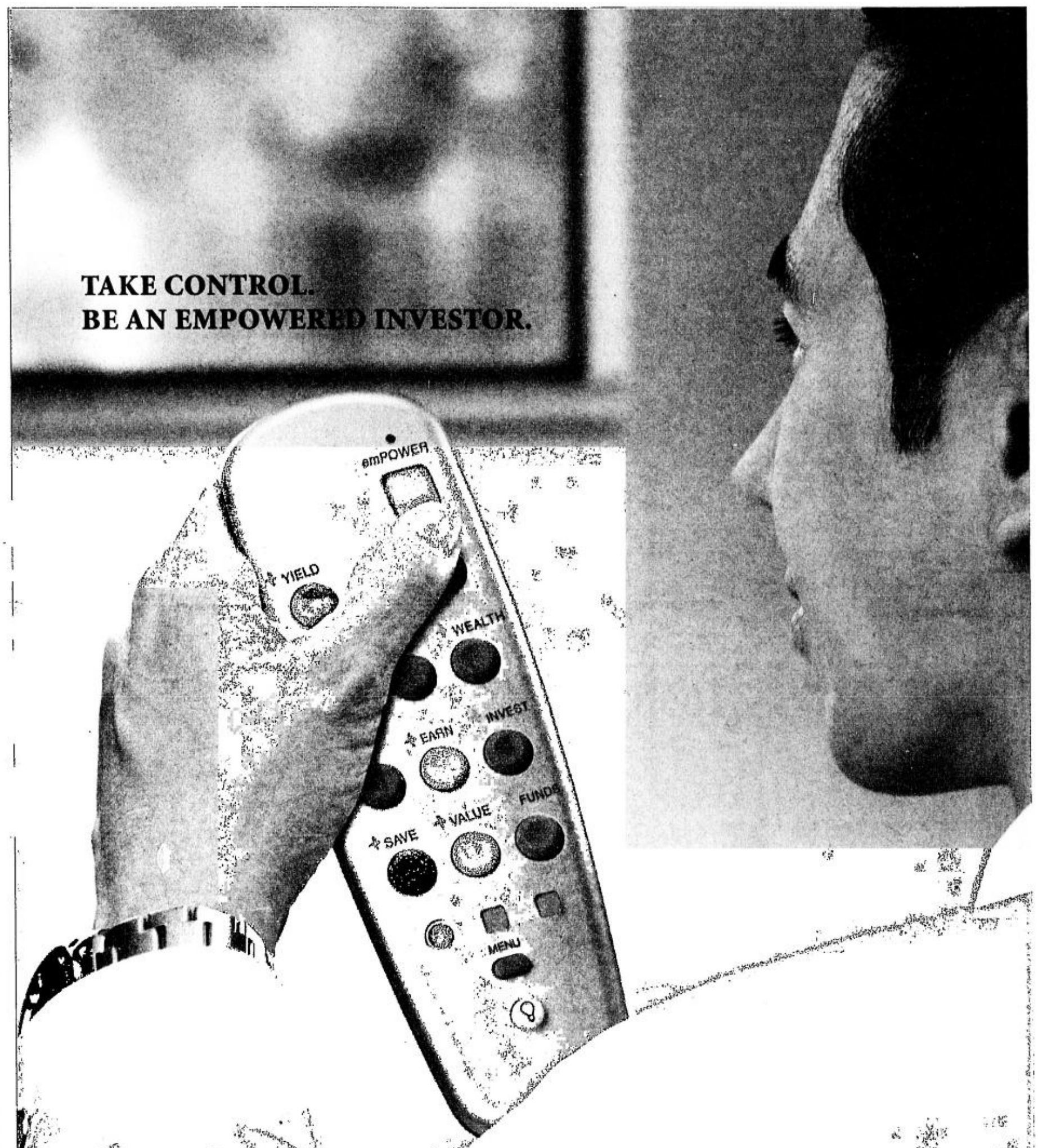
This development will also allow the company to start the construction of its processing plant.

The DENR said Australasian Philippines Mining's plant would have an annual capacity of 94,000 ounces of gold and 10,000 tons of copper concentrate.

The project is expected to raise for the government more than $700 million in tax revenue in 15 years starting 2006.

Also, Anglo American Exploration (Philippines) Inc., a subsidiary of Anglo American Plc Group, is currently in talks with Lepanto Consolidated Holdings Corp. for the possible acquisition of the latter's property in Surigao, adjacent to Anglo American's existing mining area.

Anglo-American exploration manager Patrick J. Waters said in an interview that the acquisition of this property would allow the company to increase the expected mineral production in the area, currently at 200 metric tons.



The power to grow your wealth is rewarding. This is especially true in a constantly changing and dynamic investment environment. That's why you need to be ready to act as the investment market upgrades from Common Trust Fund (CTF) to Unit Investment Trust Fund (UITF).

It would be wise, then, to take a closer look at the UITF made available through the American Express Bank Peso Cash Plus and Dollar Wealth Plus Deposit Accounts.

UITF	Available through American Express Bank	Earnings per Annum (as of 10/06/05)*
Philippine Dollar Fixed Income Fund	Dollar Wealth Plus Account	10.12%
Peso Short Term Fixed Income Fund	Peso Cash Plus Account	8.29%

*Annualized historical return of the Third Party Funds, net of taxes and fund manager fee, gross of American Express Bank's custodianship fee for the last 12 months.

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Japan to fund study for infra development in RP

By Michelle V. Remo

THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT HAS provided a $677,000 grant for the Philippines to study ways to develop and maintain its roads and bridges.

Japan cited the country's poor infrastructure as a major stumbling block to economic growth.

The grant will cover expenses for the conduct of a feasibility study for the implementation of the second phase of the National Program Support for Roads Improvement and Management (NRIMP-2).

The program includes development of various roads nationwide that will connect to the Strong Republic Nautical Highway. The project is estimated to cost $150 million—an amount that will be sourced through a loan from the World Bank once the feasibility study is completed.

The Department of Public Works and Highways will be the project's implementing agency, while the World Bank was tasked to administer the Japanese government's grant for the Philippines.

"Infrastructure development is very important for the development of the Philippine economy," said Satoshi Ikeda, financial attaché from the Embassy of Japan, during the grant signing yesterday held at the Department of Finance. "The Japanese government supports the financing needs of the Philippines."

The grant for the feasibility study for the second phase of the NRIMP was approved just as the first phase of the infrastructure project neared completion. The first phase started in 2000 and is expected to be completed next year.

The first phase, which the Philippine government implemented through a $150-million loan from the World Bank, involves the development of roads and bridges in the Cordilleras and Mindanao.

"NRIMP-2 will allow for an efficient and professionally managed road system that will help reduce transport costs and cost of products, increase their access to social services, and make commercialization easier," said Joachim von Amsberg, World Bank country director to the Philippines.

The Japanese grant would beef up the government's scant funds for infrastructure development.

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PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION
INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND TO BID

The Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation (PDIC), as Liquidator of the closed First Savings Bank (FSB), is inviting interested banks to pre-qualify and to bid in the Purchase of Assets with Acquisition of Banking Offices of FSB, on an "As-Is-Where-Is" basis, "lock, stock and barrel", and payable in cash.

Interested parties must submit the following documents not later than October 26, 2005 to the Office of the Vice President, RLG-I at the 8th Floor, PDIC Extension Office, SSS Bldg, Ayala Ave., Corner V.A. Rufino St., Makati City:

1. Letter of Intent to be pre-qualified by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) and participate in the bidding for the purchase of assets with acquisition of banking offices of FSB;
2. Board Resolution designating the person authorized to sign the said Letter of Intent referred to in number 1;
3. Company profile including organizational structure and key personnel certified by the representative;
4. Audited 2004 Financial Statements.

Only banks which have been pre-qualified by the BSP shall be invited to a pre-bid conference on November 23, 2005, and shall be allowed to participate in the bidding. Bids shall be submitted to the Disposal Committee (Committee) at the 6th floor, PDIC Building, 2228 Chino Roces Ave, Makati City, from 8:00 am to 10:00 am on December 14, 2005, or at such date, time and place as may be subsequently announced by the Committee.

A Bidding Kit, which includes the Conditions of Bid, Bid Form, pro-forma documentary requirements and FSB information package, shall be made available to all pre-qualified banks on November 18 to 23, 2005 after payment of a non-refundable amount of P1,000.00.

The Committee shall have the right to accept or reject any bid.

The Committee shall not assume any obligation to compensate or indemnify any party for any expense or loss that may be incurred as a result of participating in the bidding. The Committee reserves the right to amend any document contained in the Bidding Kit, or to cancel the bidding at any time prior to the submission of sealed bids. Interested parties shall be notified of any such amendment or cancellation.

For further inquiries, please coordinate with Ms. Nanette R. Sanchez or Ms. Teresa H. Garcia at telephone nos. 841-4760 and 841-4725.

Disposal Committee for the Purchase of Assets
with Acquisition of Banking Offices of First Savings Bank

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PRIVATIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OFFICE
INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

1. The Privatization and Management Office (PMO), through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites Security Agencies to apply for eligibility and to bid for the hereunder projects for a contract duration of two (2) years:

Description	No. of Guards	Approved Budget (P59,868,388.80 - For 2 years)
Hiring of Security Services for NCR	38	14,737,108.80
Hiring of Security Services for Luzon	64	18,411,600.00
Hiring of Security Services for Visayas	22	5,896,920.00
Hiring of Security Services for Mindanao	81	20,822,760.00
	205	

2. Prospective bidders should have experience in undertaking a similar project within the last three (3) years with an amount of at least 50% of the proposed project for bidding and have key personnel and equipment (owned, leased or under purchase) available for the execution of the project. The Eligibility Check/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria. Post-qualification of the lowest eligible bidders shall be conducted.
3. All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-bidding Conference, Evaluation of Bids, Post Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. No. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).
4. Bid Documents will be available starting **October 14, 2005** from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the 4th Floor PMO-BAC Secretariat upon payment of a non-refundable amount of:
   NCR P3,700.00 LUZON P4,600.00 VISAYAS P1,500.00 MINDANAO P5,200.00
5. The PMO-BAC will conduct its **Pre-Bid Conference** open to all interested bidders on **October 28, 2005 at 2:00 p.m.**, 6th Floor Privatization and Management Office, 104 Gamboa St., Legaspi Village, Makati City.
6. **Deadline for Submission of Bids/Eligibility Requirements and Bid Opening shall be on November 10, 2005** at the 6th floor, Privatization and Management Office, 104 Gamboa St., Legaspi Village, Makati City with the following schedules:
   VISAYAS 9:00 a.m. MINDANAO 11:00 a.m. LUZON 1:00 p.m. NCR 3:00 p.m.
   Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders or their representatives who choose to attend. All bids must be accompanied by a **Bid Security** in any of the forms listed on the table below. **Late bids shall not be accepted.**

Form of Bid Security	Region	% of ABC	Corresponding Amt.
Certified check, cashier's check or manager's check; OR	NCR	1%	147,371.09
	Luzon		184,116.00
	Visayas		58,969.20
	Mindanao		208,227.60
Bank guarantee; OR	NCR	1 1/2%	221,056.63
	Luzon		276,174.00
	Visayas		88,453.80
	Mindanao		312,341.40
Surety Bond	NCR	2 1/2%	368,427.72
	Luzon		460,290.00
	Visayas		147,423.00
	Mindanao		520,569.00

7. The PMO-BAC assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of the bid.
8. Moreover, the PMO-BAC reserves its right to reject any or all bid proposals, waive any formality in the bid requirements, declare the bidding a failure without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders, or award the contract to the bidder whose offer is the **Lowest Calculated and Responsive Bid**, and most advantageous to the Government.

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE (BAC)
PRIVATIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OFFICE
104 Gamboa Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tel. 8171103 Fax No. 893-3453 Website:www.pmo.gov.ph

(Sgd) CRISANTA S. LEGASPI
Chairperson, PMO-BAC

(PDI-Oct 14 & 21, 2005)

BMW, BPI launch lease program for corporate market

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

THE BANK OF THE Philippine Islands and premium car leader BMW Philippines Corp. yesterday showed how car enthusiasts could get a great ride for an affordable price with the launch of a new leasing program that would expand funding options for motorists, making it affordable for them to drive home a BMW.

"The companies prefer to lease rather than buy and they are hoping to find something that suits the needs of its executives," Montinola said. "But there is a customer dilemma. BMW does really well. It makes you emotional about the product but, admittedly, it is premium priced."

Montinola said the new three-year "premium lease" program would require a company to make a low initial payment of 10 percent of the cost of the car, as against traditional down payments of 20 percent.

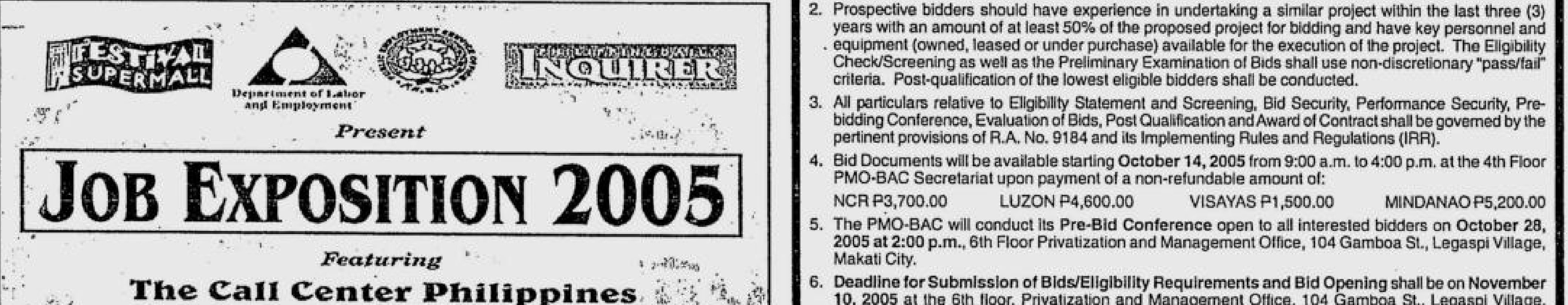
The lease agreement will be under BPI Leasing Corp., the largest leasing company in the country.

The car user will also have to pay low monthly fees, which may be 10 percent lower than the regular monthly fees paid under car leasing programs, Montinola said.

BPI has also bundled up service fees and has waived annual chattel mortgage fees and documentary stamp taxes, Montinola said.

With this program, BMW is targeting corporations that offer car packages to employees. Officials said this option is also available for individual buyers.

Montinola also said that after three years, a buyer can return, buy or refinance his Bimmer, or ask for another lease. Prices of BMW cars go as low as P1.6 million for its 116i, to as much as P10.3 million for the 750Li.



DTI destroys ₱50M worth of seized goods

By Ronnel W. Domingo

THE DEPARTMENT of Trade and Industry yesterday said it had destroyed some P50 million worth of confiscated and substandard products.

Trade Undersecretary Zenaida C. Maglaya yesterday said in a statement that the products were seized during enforcement activities of the Bureau of Products standards in 11 regions nationwide.

BPS' Special Monitoring Assistance to the Regional Operations Group seized 70,000 uncertified and substandard items in Metro Manila, Regions I to VII, Regions X and XI, Caraga and Cordillera.

Among those destroyed were liquefied petroleum gas cylinders, Christmas lights, disposable lighters, automotive batteries, safety glass, seat belts, tires, steel bars and electric products.

"We do not stop at confiscating substandard goods," Maglaya said. "These dangerous products must be destroyed because we cannot risk them finding their way back into the market."

More than 100 enterprises have been charged with violating standards laws that prohibit wholesalers, distributors and retailers from selling products that have not passed through standards testing.

PLDT rating upgrade seen

By Clarissa S. Batino

MOODY'S INVESTORS Service plans to improve its rating on the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co.'s $1.3-billion debt early next year in line with the company's improving financial profile.

The credit rating agency similarly raised the debt rating of Globe Telecom Inc. in July to Ba2 from Ba3, on grounds that the participation of state-owned Singapore Telecom in the local mobile company improved its ability to settle debts.

A ratings improvement makes the company less risky to investors.

Ratings on PLDT and Globe debts are better than Moody's rating of B1 on Philippine debt paper.

The rating firm yesterday said it had placed PLDT's ratings "on review for possible upgrade" resulting "from continual improvements in PLDT's financial risk profile.

The evaluation will be concluded by the end of the year.

The rating firm said the review would focus on the sustainability of improvements in PLDT's operating and financial profile and prospective capital expenditure requirements, including any investment in third-generation or 3G technology.

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RP crucial to Dell diversification

By Abigail L. Ho

DELL INC.'S 700-SEAT CALL CENTER, which will start operating in February 2006, will play an important role in the company's expansion into consumer electronics.

Doy Roque, designated spokesperson for Dell, said yesterday the Philippine contact center was "critical to the company's overall business" as it would handle a large part of the sales and technical support requirements of Dell's expanded product range.

Under the company's expansion strategy, Roque said in a

RP CRUCIAL/ B5

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Series of 2005

APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF SPECIAL SERIES BONDS (NEW ISSUE) OF THE HOME GUARANTY CORPORATION AS A MODE OF COMPLIANCE TO THE TWENTY PERCENT (20%) SOCIALIZED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENT UNDER SECTION 18 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7279.

WHEREAS, there is a request that the purchase by the owner-developer of a subdivision project of the Special Series Bonds (New Issue) of the Home Guaranty Corporation (HGC) be considered as compliance with the twenty percent (20%) balanced housing development requirement under Section 18 of Republic Act No. 7279, otherwise known as "The Urban Development and Housing Act (UDHA) of 1992";

WHEREAS, the Board, in its continuing effort to boost the production of low-cost housing, desires to broaden the capacity of housing developers to comply with the said requirement;

WHEREFORE, be it resolved as it is hereby resolved that the purchase by housing developers of HGC Special Series Bonds (New Issue) be considered as an alternative compliance with the balanced housing requirement under Section 18 of R.A. No. 7279.

APPROVED, 20 July 2005, Makati City.

THE HONORABLE NOLI L. DE CASTRO
Vice President of the Philippines &
HUDCC Chairman

AUGUSTO B. SANTOS
Director General, NEDA

ROMULO Q.M. FABUL
Commissioner and
Chief Executive Officer

RAMON J. LIWAG
Undersecretary, DOJ

TERESITA A. DESIERTO
Commissioner

EDUARDO R. SOLIMAN, JR.
Undersecretary, DILG

FRANCISCO L. DAGNALAN
Commissioner

JOEL L. JACOB
DPWH
Ex-Officio Commissioner

JESUS YAP PANG
Commissioner

Attested By:

CHARITO B. LANSANG
Board Secretary

(PDI – October 8, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Finance
INSURANCE COMMISSION
1071 United Nations Avenue
Manila

Head Office:
P.O. Box 3589 Manila
FAX No. 522-14-34
Tel. Nos. 523-84-61 to 70
Email: oic@i-manila.com.ph

INVITATION TO BID

The Insurance Commission (Ins Com), through the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) invites suppliers/manufacturers/distributors to apply for eligibility and to bid for the purchase of the following goods with the total approved budget of P2,996,000.00 through SARO-BMB-C-05-0003093.

1. One (1) car/sedan: any four-wheel sedan or hatchback type vehicle with not less than four door and an engine with a displacement not exceeding 1500 cc for gasoline or 2200 cc for diesel with car air conditioning, AM/FM stereo cassette/CD player and magwheels.
2. One (1) van: any four-wheel van type vehicle with fully imported chassis and body, with not less than four door and an engine with a displacement not exceeding 2200 cc for gasoline or 3000 cc for diesel with car air conditioning AM/FM stereo cassette/CD player and magwheels.
3. One (1) wagon: any four-wheel van type vehicle with fully imported chassis and body, with not less than four door and an engine with a displacement not exceeding 1800 cc for gasoline or 2500 cc for diesel with car air conditioning AM/FM stereo cassette/CD player and magwheels.

The Bid Documents may be obtained from the BAC Secretariat of the Insurance Commission, Insurance Commission Bldg., 1071 United Nations Avenue Manila upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P1,000.00.

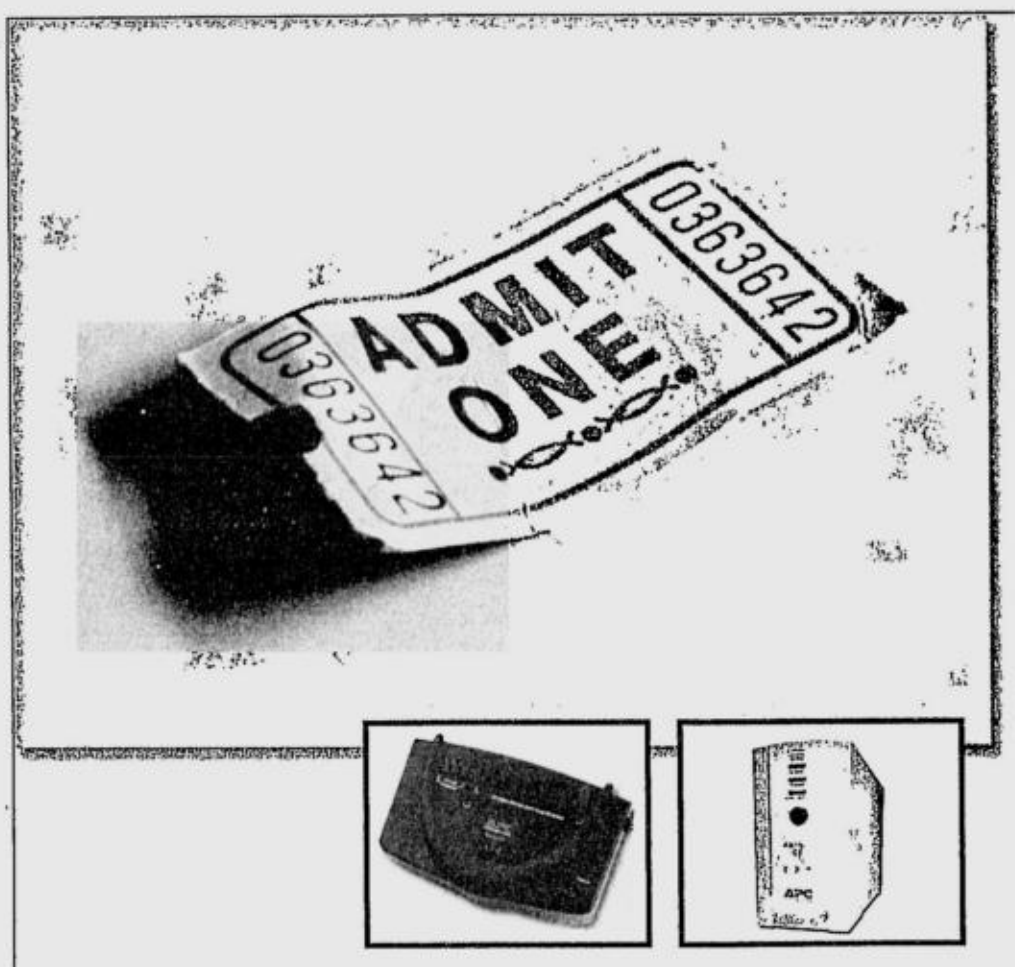
Interested parties are requested to attend the Pre-Bid Conference on October 21, 2005.

For additional information contact Ms Ariel S. Sim and/or Nancy V. Camaliga at Tel. No. 5238461 to 5238470 or telefax at 5221434.

The BAC reserves the rights to reject any or all bids, waive any defects or information or accept any bid's or other's which it may consider to be most advantageous and beneficial to the government.

Committee on Bids and Awards

(PDI – October 8 & 14, 2005)



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- Protects printers, fax machines or other equipments from surges without reducing battery capacity.
- Protects connected loads from surges, spikes, lightning, and other power disturbances.

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- Ensures early detection of potential problems by periodic testing of UPS components.
- Ensures clean, uninterrupted power to protected equipment throughout battery operations.
- Recovers from overload conditions quickly and easily.
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Promo duration from Sept. 15 to Oct. 31 2005
See posters in participating outlets for more promo details
per DTI permit NCR permit #5449 series of 2005

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PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of October 13, 2005)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	31	31	31	31	900
Bank of the Phil. Islands	52	52.5	51.5	51.5	1,171,000
China Banking Corp.	610	610	605	605	950
Citystate Savings Bank	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.5	400
Export and Ind. Bank Inc.	0.53	0.54	0.53	0.54	800,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	49	49	48.5	48.5	108,200
International Exch. Bank	19	19	18.75	18.75	10,100
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	27.5	27.5	26.5	27	212,000
Philippine National Bank	30.5	30.5	30.5	30.5	100
Phil. Savings Bank	34	34	34	34	100
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	3,000
Security Bank Corp.	29.5	29.5	29.5	29.5	3,000
Union Bank of the Phil.	29.5	29.5	29.5	29.5	2,000
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
Bankard Inc.	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	40,000
First Abacus Financial	0.32	0.49	0.32	0.49	240,000
First Metro Invest. Corp.	24.25	26	24.25	26	2,500
Manulife Financial Corp.	2875	2875	2875	2875	400
PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc.	0.98	1	0.98	1	60,000
Phil. Stock Exchange Inc.	145	145	145	145	960,810
Sun Life Financial Inc.	2010	2010	2010	2010	510
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	14	14	13.75	14	8,100
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	0.91	0.91	0.91	0.91	350,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	730	735	730	735	24,020
Ipeople Inc.	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2,000
ISM Communications Corp.	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	1,000,000
Pilipino Tel. Corp.	2.95	2.95	2.9	2.9	1,447,000
Transpacific Broadband	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	25,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	1695	1700	1695	1700	171,860
Philweb Corp.	0.015	0.016	0.015	0.015	22,300,000
POWER, ENERGY & OTHER UTILITIES					
Manila Electric Co. A	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	64,600
Manila Electric Co. B	20.75	21	20.75	21	234,600
Manila Water Co. Inc.	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.6	2,761,000
Petron Corp.	3.45	3.45	3.3	3.35	1,507,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	1	1	1	1	20,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.74	1.74	1.74	1.74	200,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	9.4	9.5	9.4	9.5	1,005,000
Keppel Phils. Marine Inc.	0.59	0.59	0.59	0.59	50,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.52	0.53	0.52	0.53	780,000
Holcim Philippines Inc.	3.05	3.1	3.05	3.1	198,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	23,000
Ginebra San Miguel Inc.	28.5	29	28.5	28.5	16,800
Jollibee Foods Corp.	36	36	35	35.5	261,300
RFM Corp.	0.68	0.68	0.68	0.68	40,000
San Miguel Corp. A	65	65	65	65	20,000
San Miguel Corp. B	91	91.5	91	91	105,300
Universal Robina Corp.	16.5	16.5	16.5	16.5	5,500
Vitarich Corp.	0.29	0.3	0.28	0.3	1,540,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Ayala Corp.	285	285	285	285	31,490
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	4.95	4.95	4.9	4.9	46,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	0.022	0.022	0.022	0.022	1,500,000
A. Soriano Corp.	2.08	2.12	2.08	2.12	2,681,000
ATN Holdings Inc.	1.5	1.58	1.5	1.58	35,000
Bacnotan Cons Indus Inc.	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5	9,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	0.99	0.99	0.99	0.99	940,000
Basic Consolidated Inc.	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	400,000
Southeast Asian Cement	0.235	0.24	0.235	0.24	660,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	3.15	3.2	3.1	3.1	366,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	550,000
Fil-Hispano Holdings Corp.	5	5	5	5	62,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	41.5	42	41.5	41.5	1,207,200
Ionics Inc.	1.12	1.12	1.1	1.1	130,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9	602,000
Macroasia Corp.	1.74	1.74	1.74	1.74	33,000
Marsteel Cons. Inc. B	0.014	0.014	0.014	0.014	1,000,000
Megaworld Corp.	1.36	1.36	1.34	1.36	2,556,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	1,610,000
Prime Media Holdings Inc.	1.1	1.18	1.1	1.18	254,000
Roxas Holdings Inc.	1.24	1.24	1.22	1.22	80,000
Solid Group Inc.	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.47	900,000
SM Investments Corp.	219	219	218	218	685,080
Tanduay Holdings Inc.	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	5,000
Unioil Res. & Holdings Co	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	1,600,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	2,010,000
Wellex Industries, Inc.	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	500,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Euro-Med Lab. Phil. Inc.	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2,000
Interphil Labs Inc. A	1	1	1	1	50,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICES					
Belle Corp.	0.88	0.89	0.88	0.89	320,000
Fairmont Holdings, Inc.	0.66	0.66	0.66	0.66	100,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	100,000
Manila Jockey Club	2.8	2.9	2.8	2.9	24,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
PLDT (10% Pref) Series T	11	11	11	11	800
PLDT (10% Pref) Series V	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	3,700
PLDT (10% Pref) Series W	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	4,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series X	11	11	11	11	2,800
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Cc	10	50 10	.5 10	.5 10	.5 1,800
OTHERS					
Centro Escolar University	9.1	9.1	9	9	6,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	8.7	8.8	8.7	8.7	15,514,000
C&P Homes Inc.	0.175	0.18	0.175	0.18	4,540,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	50,000
EIB Realty Developers Inc.	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	170,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	600,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.28	1.28	1.26	1.28	3,829,000
Kuok Phil. Properties	0.185	0.185	0.185	0.185	2,020,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	110,000
Robinsons Land Corp.	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	112,000
Phil Realty and Holdings	0.145	0.145	0.145	0.145	210,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	4,204,000
MINING					
Apex Mining Co. Inc. A	1	1	0.92	0.96	990,000
Apex Mining Co. Inc. B	0.94	0.95	0.94	0.95	270,000
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	86,000,000
Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	355,000
Benguet Corp. A	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	10,000
Dizon Copper Silver Mines	1.6	1.6	1.58	1.58	150,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.215	0.22	0.21	0.21	4,720,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B	0.235	0.24	0.23	0.23	17,470,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.015	0.016	0.015	0.016	20,000,000
Omico Corp.	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	7,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.95	0.95	0.94	0.94	710,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	1.08	1.08	1.06	1.06	857,000
Semirara Mining Corp.	26	26	25.5	25.5	2,064,900
OIL					
Imperial Res.	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	1,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.007	10,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	0.0075	155,000,000
The Philodrill Corp. A	0.41	0.41	0.41	0.41	370,000
The Philodrill Corp. B	0.41	0.41	0.41	0.41	200,000
Sinophil Corp.	0.125	0.125	0.125	0.125	6,400,000

DISCLOSURES

SWIFT Foods Inc. elected Eleuterio Coronel as director of the corporation.

* * *

THE **PHILIPPINE Savings Bank** board of directors approved the issuance of unsecured subordinate debt to increase the bank's capital.

* * *

FILINVEST Development Corp. executed "omnibus fixed rate notes" worth P1.05 billion with certain domestic financial institutions (note holders), First Metro Investment Corp. and Filinvest Alabang Inc.

The proceeds of the fixed rate notes will finance the repayment of the corporations existing debt.

* * *

PHILIPPINE Long Distance Telephone Co. announced the additional listing of 213 common shares under the executive stock option plan. This brings the number of common shares to 650,576 shares. ***Compiled by Chona Galang, PDI Research***

CURRENCIES

October 13, 2005 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Dollar Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	0.831808	1.000000	55.8540
Japan	Yen	0.007275	0.008746	0.4885
United Kingdom	Pound	1.456996	1.751600	97.8339
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.107219	0.128899	7.1995
Switzerland	Franc	0.646015	0.776639	43.3784
Canada	Dollar	0.710887	0.854628	47.7344
Singapore	Dollar	0.492049	0.591541	33.0399
Australia	Dollar	0.627685	0.754603	42.1476
Bahrain	Dinar*	2.207442	2.653787	148.2246
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.221757	0.266596	14.8905
Brunei	Dollar	0.490598	0.589797	32.9425
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000082	0.000099	0.0055
Thailand	Baht	0.020328	0.024438	1.3650
UAE	Dirham	0.226491	0.272287	15.2083
Euro	Euro	1.000000	1.202200	67.1477
Argentina	Peso	0.281016	0.337838	18.8696
Brazil	Real	0.372757	0.448129	25.0298
Denmark	Kroner	0.133989	0.161082	8.9971
India	Rupee	0.018592	0.022351	1.2484
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.220563	0.265161	14.8103
Mexico	New Peso	0.076180	0.091584	5.1153
New Zealand	Dollar	0.579455	0.696621	38.9091
Norway	Kroner	0.127950	0.153822	8.5916
Pakistan	Rupee	0.013926	0.016742	0.9351
South Africa	Rand	0.126758	0.152388	8.5115
Korea	Won	0.000798	0.000959	0.0536
Taiwan	Nt Dollar	0.024958	0.030004	1.6758
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.000388	0.000466	0.0260

PRULINK	PRU LIFE U.K.
Investments of Variable Life Insurance Contracts	Current Week October 11, 2005	Last Week October 04, 2005
Bond Fund - Peso	1.28057	1.27843
Managed Fund - Peso	1.38483	1.37776
Growth Fund - Peso	1.03375	1.01618
Bond Fund - US Dollar	1.1506	1.1505

* Note: These investments of variable life insurance contracts are not mutual funds. Life insurance products are regulated by the Insurance Commission

SMC tests beer in plastic bottles

COCKTALES

Victor C. Agustin

SAN MIGUEL CORP. WILL QUIETly launch beer in plastic bottles tonight in time for the Oktoberfest bacchanalia.

According to the grapevine, San Miguel is still officially in a market-test mode for the one-liter PET-bottled beer, with initial sales targeted and limited to corporate and "party-pack" customers.

(Tip: Join the happening at Metrowalk in Ortigas tonight to guzzle the trend-setting—and we hope free—beer.)

Despite having a majority lock on the local beer market and local consumers having long accepted plastic bottling for cola drinks, San Miguel has apparently decided to tiptoe its way into the new technology.

Still, San Miguel wants to eventually launch PET-bottled beer alongside the traditional glass bottled and aluminum-canned Pale Pilsen and other company beer brands.

Cheaper, lighter, unbreakable and recyclable, beer bottles made of polyethlylene terephthalate have made giant quality strides ever since an Australian brewer launched the first PET-bottled beer in 1996.

Specifically, the newer-generation PET bottles have achieved industry standards on carbonation shelf life and oxygen-barrier performance that reduce the tendency of beer to lose spirit and eventually taste flat.

Family disconnection

DESPITE being a main sponsor to the TV program of the Supreme Court administrator Presbiterio Velasco, Pagoda Philippines has lost a Supreme Court appeal to inhibit a judge from hearing a trademark infringement case filed by Pagoda against a competitor.

Better known as the maker of the Family Brand alcohol, Pagoda filed a civil case in the Manila Regional Trial Court against Universal Canning Corp. seeking to prohibit the latter from manufacturing and selling "Family's Brand" of sardines.

Pagoda claims the competition is confusingly similar to its own "Family Brand" of sardines. Pagoda Philippines is owned by Manila-based businessman Ernie Yu, while Universal Canning is controlled by couple Leoncio and Anita Kaw.

Because of the intensity of the charges and countercharges, Judge Antonio Eugenio Jr. decided to voluntarily inhibit himself after initially dismissing "without prejudice" Pagoda's complaint.

But both the Court of Appeals and, now, the Supreme Court's Third Division, voted to grant Universal Canning's mandamus petition for the judge to continue hearing the case.

Money-go-round

• CITRA, the Skyway operator, is junking the thousands of E-Z passes it issued to motorists because of their problematic and difficult-to-replace 3.6-volt batteries. But instead of giving away free replacements, Citra is charging subscribers an additional P2,600 for each of the new type E-Z transmitter.

In the meantime, those who want to keep the old E-Z pass are being charged P1,200 for a replacement battery.

• THE SPANISH clothing chain Zara will open its first branch in the country tomorrow at Rockwell. A few lucky hundreds, in the meantime, will get first dibs on the cutting-edge merchandise during a private launch tonight.

Heard through the grapevine

CEBU Pacific is waffling on its planned non-stop trans-Pacific flights to battle the monopoly position of Philippine Airlines.

Reason: The exponential rise in jet fuel prices and ground handling, administrative and flight crew expenses.

Another option being considered is to first fly charter flights during the peak season, like what Cebu Pacific has successfully done for the Korea-Philippines market.

(Email: cocktales_pdi@pldtdsl.net or cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com)

Megaworld spending . . .

From page B1

DA) beside the 60-hectare, 18-hole Villamor golf course.

The second phase of Newport City will involve the development of a business park and a shopping/entertainment hub.

Newport City is Megaworld's second largest development project, next to the 50-hectare residential McKinley Hill project in Fort Bonifacio Global City. Out of the 482 residential lots in 26 blocks offered for sale, only 165 lots remained unsold.

Megaworld has also tied up with Araneta Center Inc. for a P15-billion residential project that would be linked to the MRT-3 and LRT-2 mass transit systems in Cubao, Quezon City.

Under a joint venture agreement signed last August, Megaworld will build 17 buildings which will host around 6,000 residential condominium units on a 4.2-hectare property of the Araneta group's 35-ha Araneta Center.

The Megaworld–Araneta project is inspired by successful transport-oriented projects in Hong Kong and Tokyo. These are residential and leisure hubs built around major subway stations.

The MRT-3 runs from North Avenue to Taft Avenue along Edsa, while LRT-2 is an eleven station , 14-km line linking the east and west sides of Metro Manila. Both lines carry an average of 1.2 million passengers a day. Both systems are also connected to LRT-1, which runs from Monumento in Caloocan to Baclaran in Parañaque. A focal point of the Megaworld–Araneta project is a three-story elevated walkway that will interconnect all 17 buildings and bring residents within walking distance to the MRT-3 and LRT-2.

RP crucial to Dell . . .

From page B4

briefing yesterday that Dell would sell products such as high-definition television sets (HDTV) and MP3 players.

Although these products would not be sold in the Philippines, he said sales and technical inquiries for these would be handled by Dell's contact center here.

As a prelude to the Dell contact center's planned aggressive recruitment campaign, company owner Michael Dell himself would be speaking to prospective Philippines customer service representatives via webcast from Oct. 14-21.

The webcast, a first for the company and its owner, would be shown exclusively for the Philippine market, Roque said.

He added that the company had gone to such lengths for its Philippine contact center as it believed that the country was among the world's "prized contact center locations," with its highly skilled workforce and robust telecommunications infrastructure.

"Customer service and support, a $6-billion market, is an important and growing business opportunity for Dell," said Dagoberto Quintana, Dell international service vice president.

"We're making unprecedented investments in our service and support capabilities, including here in the Philippines, where we are looking for the most talented professionals who want to build careers and help us strengthen our direct connection with customers," Quintana added.

Since its inception in 1984, Dell has capitalized on direct relationships with customers—in person, on the phone or over the Internet—to grow its business.

It is the first company to generate $1 million in daily online sales, operating one of the world's highest volume Internet sites.

The Dell contact center's training facility will open later this month, with the actual contact center to follow by February next year.

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The particulars, details and visuals shown herein are intended to give a general idea of the project and as such are not to be relied upon as statements of fact. While such particulars and details are based on present plans, which have been prepared with utmost care and are presented in good faith, buyers are invited to verify their factual correctness and subsequent changes, if any. The contents herein are subject to change without prior notice and do not constitute part of an offer or contract. HLURB License to Sell #. 0185 I

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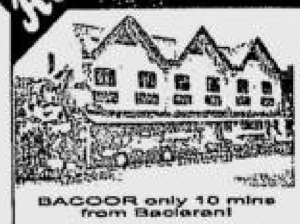

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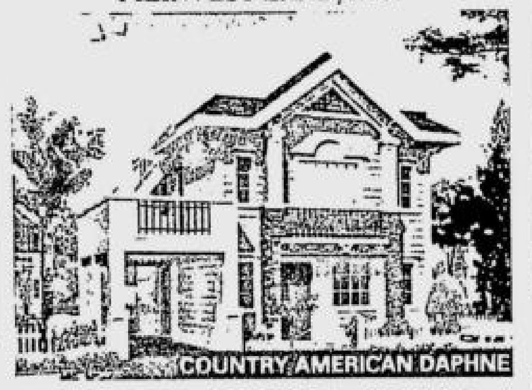

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PRIVATIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OFFICE INVITATION TO SUBMIT OFFERS MAKATI PROPERTY IDEAL FOR AN "IT PARK"

The Privatization and Management Office (PMO) of the Republic of the Philippines invites interested parties to participate in the Offer for Sale for the National Government-owned asset, which is the former site of INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL MANILA, INC. (ISM), with an aggregate area of 48,832 square meters, together with the school buildings and other improvements existing thereon, located at the ISM compound at Kalayaan Avenue, Makati City, on an "AS-IS, WHERE-IS" basis.

The asset is being offered as one package with a Floor Price of PESOS: ONE BILLION ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY SIX MILLION FIVE HUNDRED NINETY SIX THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY (P1,186,596,750).

Offers will be received, opened and tabulated in the presence of the offerors on November 17, 2005 at 3:00 p.m. at the Conference Room, 6th Floor, Privatization and Management Office, 104 Gamboa St., Legaspi Village, Makati City.

An information Package consisting of the Sale Documents and the Asset Specific Catalogue (ASC) on ISM shall be made available to parties who register their interest and pay a non-refundable fee of Pesos: Five Thousand (P5,000), Philippine Currency.

For details, please call the Marketing Department at telephone numbers 818-4733; 892-2145; fax no. 818-0906.

PMO reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to reject any or all offered price related to this invitation.

In the event this Offer for Sale becomes a failure, PMO reserves the right to accept proposals for the asset.

(PDI-Oct. 12, 13 & 14, 2005)

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PUBLIC NOTICES

AUCTION SALE

MEYCAUAYAN-FILIPINAS Pawnshop, Alw Complex, Calvario, Meyc. Bulacan. All unredeemed pledges of APRIL 2005 will be auctioned on OCT 24, 8:30 am. - Lanuza & Sons-Auctioneer.
(PDI - OCT. 14, 2005)

MUNOZ-FILIPINAS PAWNSHOP, Roosevelt Ave., Kalipunan, Diliman, Quezon City. All unredeemed pledges of APR. &MAY 2005 will be auctioned on OCT. 24, 2005, 2:30 PM. - Lanuza & Sons - Auctioneer.
(PDI - OCT 14, 2005)

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late NG SENG LAO has been extrajudicially settled by their heirs with waiver of rights as per Doc. No. 215, Page No. 20, Book No. XXII, Series of 2005 of Notary Public Jose V. Marcella of Pasig City.
(PDI-Sept. 30, Oct. 7 & 14, 2005)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late BENJAMIN E. TORRES has been extrajudicially settled among his heirs as per Doc. No. 49; Page No. 11; Book No. XLVII; Series of 2005 Notary Public Fernando T. Collantes
(PDI-Oct. 14, 21 & 28, 2005)

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is hereby given that the San Miguel Corp. Stock Cert. No. 99568244 - 338 shares under ROSA ESTEBAN were declared lost. If no contest is received in 1 year, new certificates will be issued.
(PDI-Oct. 14, 21 & 28, 2005)

PRIVATIZATION AND MANGEMENT OFFICE INVITATION TO BID

The assets, consisting of a parcel of land with an area of 425 sq.m., including improvements thereon formerly belonging to Prime White Cement Corporation, are being offered for sale on an "as-is, where-is" basis, located at No. 95 East Maya Drive, Philam Homes Subdivision, Quezon City.

Asset	Indicative Price
Land and improvements	P 7,747,000

Bids will be received, opened and tabulated in the presence of the bidders on **November 8, 2005** at 3:00 p.m., at the PMO Conference Room, 6th Floor, Privatization and Management Office, 104 Gamboa St., Legaspi Village, Makati City.

In the event this bidding fails, PMO reserves the right to accept proposals submitted for the above asset.

Interested parties may request for a duly authenticated sale documents for a non-refundable fee of P500.00.

For more information, please call Ms. Melinda B. Cortez of the Marketing Department at telephone numbers 892-2145 or 818-4733.

(PDI-Oct. 13, 14 & 15, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
CENTRAL OFFICE BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
Bldg. #6, SAN LAZARO COMPOUND, RIZAL AVENUE, STA. CRUZ, 1003, MANILA, PHILIPPINES
TEL. NO. (632) 743-8301 LOCAL 1650-1652; Web address: www.doh.gov.ph

October 06, 2005

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

1. The *Department of Health (DOH)*, through the *Government of the Philippines invites consulting firms to participate in the selection of Firms for the following. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at the opening of the financial proposals.*

No.	PROJECT	ABC	COST OF BID DOCUMENTS
1	Audio Visual Documentation of Selected Functional-Inter-Local Health (IFB-CS-GOP-2005-17)	Php 1,000,000.00	Php 500.00

2. The *DOH* now calls for the submission of *Letters of Intent (LOI)* from potential bidders to apply for eligibility and shortlisting for the *above consulting service*. Interested consultants must submit their LOIs on or before October 21, 2005 at 5:00 PM at the *address indicated below* and secure the Eligibility Documents there from or may be downloaded from the DOH website (www.doh.gov.ph). Applications for eligibility will be evaluated on a "pass/fail" basis. The last day for the submission of the accomplished eligibility documents shall be on October 28, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. at *the COBAC Conference Room*. Only those that are short listed will be entitled to submit bids.
3. The COBAC shall draw up the short list of consultants from those who have submitted *LOIs* and have been determined as eligible both in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184) and its Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A). The short list of prospective bidders shall consist of *three (3) to seven (7)* consultants. The criteria and rating system for short listing are applicable experience (40%), qualification of personnel (40%) and current workload (20%).
4. *LOIs* must be delivered by hand, through mail, or facsimile to the address below at *9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.* on or before *October 21, 2005.*
5. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures as specified in the IRR-A of R.A. 9184, and is restricted, unless otherwise stated, to Filipino citizens or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest belonging to citizens of the Philippines. In accordance with IRR-A of R.A. 9184 only bids from short listed consultants will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in the eligibility documents. In accordance with the IRR-A of R.A. 9184 the contract will only be awarded to the Highest Rated and Responsive Bidder who was determined as such during post-qualification.
   The DOH shall evaluate bids using the *Quality-Cost Based Evaluation (QCBE) with 60/40 weight in favor of Technical Evaluation.*
6. Interested consultants may obtain further information from the *COBAC Secretariat: Ms. Coney Liberan/Ms. Debbie Rabi* at the address given below from *10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.*
7. The contracts shall be completed within a *maximum period of six (6) months.*
8. The *Department of Health* reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids, annul the bidding process, or not award the contract at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

Contact Info:
Ms. Concepcion S. Liberan/Ms. Debbie A. Rabi, COBAC Secretariat
Address: 3/F Building 6, DOH, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila 1003
Tel. No.: 743-8301 local 1650 - 1652
E-mail Address: csliberan@co.doh.gov.ph / darabi@doh.gov.ph
Fax No.: 741-9775
Website: www.doh.gov.ph

(Sgd.) ALEXANDER A. PADILLA
Undersecretary of Health
Chairperson, COBAC

(PDI - October 14 & 18, 2005)

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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Gender, agriculture and WTO

COMMENTARY

By Ernesto M. Ordoñez

TOMORROW IS RURAL WOMEN'S DAY. Dec. 13-18 marks the World Trade Organization's (WTO) next ministerial meeting. Is there a connection between the two?

If one reads "Farm Girls Turn to Prostitution" by Blanch S. Rivera, published in yesterday's INQUIRER, the connection is very clear. Rivera relays the account of Gina (not her real name) who left the rice fields of Montalban to work as a guest relations officer (GRO) in a Caloocan night club to earn enough money for her 11-year-old daughter's illness.

Gina said her family was earning 5 kilos of rice for a weeks' work in the upland rice farms of Montalban. She also did laundry for another family for an additional 2 kilos of rice. Her family survived on *lugaw* (rice broth), eating only once a day. So when her daughter got ill, Gina had no choice but to enter the flesh trade.

In August last year, in a World Council of Church's consultation on women and globalization, a woman peasant leader asserted that many jobs had been lost because of the WTO. Because of too rapid liberalization, cheap subsidized imports replaced our local products.

With the existing gender bias against women already present in the agricultural labor market, more and more women were driven out of agriculture. They were forced into getting low-paying jobs involving long hours of work, like working as waitresses and entertainers in beer houses and other establishments. She said: "This has mushroomed in the rural areas, where a different kind of trade has flourished: the flesh trade."

Background

Today, 66 percent of our poor are in the agriculture, fishery and forestry sectors. Poverty incidence in the rural areas is 68 percent, as compared to only 34 percent in the urban areas.

In 2003, the Food and Nutrition Research Institute of the Department of Science and Technology released data on poverty and hunger. It showed that eight out of 10 Filipino households are hungry. Economist Alejandro Lichaoco said: "The Philippines has now become a case of humanitarian disaster warranting the urgent concern of the international community and a program of international aid and assistance." The WTO ministerial meeting in December can either be a boon or a bane in addressing this problem.

Our government negotiators should keep in mind the WTO's adverse impacts on our people, especially the rural women. While these women experience the ravages of poverty and hunger with their male counterparts, they suffer more than them. This is because women are often considered subordinate and inferior to men. Thus, they experience various forms of discrimination in work and within their families.

The National Statistic Office (NSO) shows that the women's rate of participation in the rural labor force is only 50 percent, compared to the men's 85 percent and above. Of the employed women in agriculture, 52 percent are unpaid family labor, while men comprise only 17 percent. To make matters worse, women generally receive lower wages than men for the same jobs.

As women find it harder to get employed, and as this employment generates insufficient income for their family's needs, they engage in additional work, mostly off-farm income-generating activities. This exacts a heavy toll on their health.

Even in the food allocation in their families, women experience discrimination. The father is given the biggest allocation since he supposedly earns the family's upkeep. The next in the allocation are the children, because they need the nutrients to grow and be strong to become the farm's productive labor. Last is the mother, since her work is perceived and often accepted as less laborious than those of men. This despite the fact that women bear a triple burden: work in the farm, other off-farm income generating activities, and household work. In several case studies, it was shown that peasant women spent 18-21 hours daily to perform these tasks.

The WTO link

Accession to WTO has meant more prosperity for the developed countries, but more poverty to the developing ones. This increased poverty has its worst impact on rural women. The WTO practice of developed countries imposing their will on developing countries should be reversed. Instead of using people for trade, trade must be used for people, especially for rural women in the developing countries. Since it is one vote one country in the WTO, and since developing countries outnumber the developed ones, it is high time that the developing countries band together and steer the WTO rather than be steered by it.

Trade should be beneficial to all the involved parties. Unfortunately, WTO has been harmful to the developing countries. The "urgent concern of the international community" that Lichaoco talked about can be demonstrated by the transformation of the WTO's orientation at its December ministerial meeting.

Trade has significant and far reaching effects in our daily lives. When properly negotiated and implemented, it can open opportunities for growth and development in several critical areas such as employment, livelihood, education, and health. It is precisely in these areas where women have fewer opportunities than men and are unfairly discriminated against, especially where poverty is prevalent.

Recommendation

As our government negotiators go to the WTO ministerial meeting, they should keep in mind that any new agreements should benefit, rather than harm, the majority of our people, especially the rural women. Uniting with developing and even enlightened developed nations, we can succeed in helping transform the image of the WTO after December from oppressive to empowering. Then WTO can finally become beneficial for our people.

(The author is Agriwatch chair, former Cabinet secretary for Presidential Flagship Programs and Projects, and former undersecretary for agriculture, and trade and industry. For inquiries and suggestions, e-mail agriwatchphil @yahoo.com or telefax 8516635)

Landbank plans to jack up capital to P48B in 3 years

By Doris C. Dumlao

LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES plans to beef up its capital base to P48 billion in three years from the current P22.5 billion.

This will be done by selling new shares to strategic investors.

Landbank yesterday said its board had approved for submission to Congress amendments to its charter which would allow the entry of new investors into the bank. The bank said it had to strengthen its capitalization in view of the stiffer international accounting and capital adequacy requirements.

Based on Landbank's internal study, some P23.5 billion in fresh capital could be raised from the offering of up to 49 percent stake to new investors.

Finance Secretary and Landbank chair Gary B. Teves explained that the planned capital increase would further strengthen the bank's financial viability and competitiveness, allowing it to expand its credit support to its priority sectors.

He said prospective investors would be limited to institutions that shared Landbank's developmental vision and philosophy in prioritizing support for countryside growth.

"We need to amend our charter before going forward with any of those options, a step that requires the approval of Congress," Teves said.

"Other options include asking multilateral institutions that share our commitment to countryside development to become investors," he added.

He said the merger of Landbank and the Development Bank of the Philippines had always been an option in line with Executive Order 366, which called for the rationalization and streamlining of functions among government entities.

In a separate interview, Landbank first vice president for strategic planning Julio Climaco said the bank, given current restrictions on capital-building, had a capital adequacy ratio (CAR) of only 13.7 percent versus the commercial bank industry's average ratio of 17 percent.

"If Landbank wants to achieve a CAR of 17 percent, we need to bring up our capital to P26 billion," he said.

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Shell congratulates Victory Liner, Inc. on their 60th Anniversary!

Republic of the Philippines

Commission on Audit

Regional Office No. VII
M.J. Cuenco Avenue cor. V. Sotto Sts.,
Cebu City

Procurement of Motor Vehicles

(Project Reference No.: PB 05-10-004)

Section I. Invitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid

1. The Commission on Audit, intends to apply the sum of Twelve Million pesos (Php 12,000,000.00) broken down as follows:

ITEM	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	Sub-ABC
Lot I	5 units AUV, 4cylinders, Displacement: 2.4 to 2.5 Liters, Diesel engine, Direct injection, Manual Transmission	Php4,000,000.00
Lot II	5 units AUV, 4cylinders, Displacement: 2.4 to 2.5 Liters, Diesel engine, Direct Injection, Manual Transmission (FOB: COA Regional Office No. VIII, Leyte Government Center, Tacloban City)	Php4,000,000.00
Lot III	5 units AUV, 4cylinders, Displacement: 2.4 to 2.5 Liters, Diesel engine, Direct injection, Manual Transmission (FOB: COA Regional Office No. VI, Pavia, Iloilo)	Php4,000,000.00
	Total ABC	**Php12,000,000.00**

Being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for the Procurement of Motor Vehicles. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid opening.

2. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act No. 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act, and is restricted to organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to the citizens of the Philippines, as specified in Republic Act 5183 (R.A. 5183). Only Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in the Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB. The bidder with the lowest calculated bid (LCB) shall advance to the post-qualification stage in order to finally determine the responsiveness to the technical and financial requirements of the project. The contract shall then be awarded to the Lowest Calculated and Responsive Bidder (LCRB) who was then determined as such during the post-qualification procedure.
3. Interested Bidders may obtain a complete set of Bidding Documents starting October 7 to 14, 2005 upon payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of Twenty Thousand (Php20,000.00) pesos from the BAC Secretariat, c/o Engr. Raymond G. Diez, Procurement Services, COA, Regional Office No. VII, M.J. Cuenco Avenue corner V. Sotto Sts., Cebu City.
4. The Commission on Audit will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties at 9:00 A.M., October 17, 2005 at COA Multi-Purpose Hall, 2nd Floor, COA Regional Office No. VII Main Bldg., M.J. Cuenco Avenue corner V. Sotto. Sts., Cebu City.
5. Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered to the address below on or before November 4, 2005 at 1:30 p.m. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in the form of cash and in the amount of Forty Thousand Pesos (Php 40,000.00) each for Lots I, II and III. Late Bids shall not be accepted.
6. Deadline for submission of Bids shall be on November 4, 2005, 1:30 P.M. at COA Multi-Purpose Hall, 2nd Floor, COA Regional Office No. VII Main bldg., M.J. Cuenco Avenue corner V. Sotto Sts., Cebu City. Immediately after the deadline, bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below.
7. The Commission on Audit thru the BAC, Regional Office No. VII, M.J. Cuenco Avenue corner V. Sotto Sts., Cebu City reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

Address:

Engr. Raymond G. Diez
Commission On Audit, Regional Office No. VII, Cebu City
Cor. M.J. Cuenco and V. Sotto Sts., Cebu City
Tel. No. (032) 2555314 loc. 111
E-mail address: rgdiez@yahoo.com
Fax No.: (032) 4166598

(Sgd.) **JOSE R. DESAMPARADO**
BAC Chairman

(PDI--Oct. 7 & 14, 2005)

National Power Corporation

HYDRO GENERATION
Upper Agno Hydro
(Ambuklao/Binga)

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID (IAEB)

The Hydro Generation (UAHPC) invites interested private janitorial and manpower agencies to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid in accordance with **R.A. 9184 for the SUPPLY of LABOR, TOOLS/EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS/SUPPLIES and SUPERVISION for the MANPOWER REQUIREMENT of the JANITORIAL/LAWN and GARDEN/ LANDSCAPING and SUPPLY of TECHNICAL, SKILLED, SEMI-SKILLED, UNSKILLED and CLERICAL SUPPORT MANPOWER SERVICES** for a contract period of two (2) years:

SCHEDULE	NAME of HYDRO PLANT and ADDRESS	APPROVED BUDGET for the CONTRACT per Year
1.	Upper Agno Hydro Plant Complex (Ambuklao and Binga HEP's) Ambuklao, Bokod and Tinongdan, Itogon	Php 3,178,000.00

Applicant/s who may apply for eligibility and to Bid shall have to meet the following requirements:

1. Duly registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and/or Department of Trade and Industry (DTI); or
2. Duly registered with the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA), in case of Cooperatives.

Eligibility and Bid Documents may be secured on October 21, 2005 to October 28, 2005; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for a fee of One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos only (P1,500.00) for Eligibility and Bid Documents at the business address of Bids and Awards Committee Secretariat of the power plants c/o Mr. Orlan W. Kelcho / Ms. Melania G. Buizon.

Pre-bid Conference	November 04, 2005; 9:00 AM at Ambuklao Hydroelectric Plant
Deadline for submission of Eligibility and Bid Documents	November 18, 2005; 12:00 NN
Opening of Eligibility Documents and Screening	November 18, 2005; 1:00 PM
Opening of Bids (Price)	November 21, 2005; 2:00 PM

The determination of eligibility shall be based on the submission of the required documents, utilizing the prescribed forms using the criteria stated in the Eligibility Guidelines, Instruction to bidders and section 23.11 of the IRR of RA 9184. The bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid will be subjected to Post-Qualification procedure before an award is made. Bid Prices submitted higher than the approved budget shall be rejected and returned outright.

(Sgd.) **M. I. SUAYA**
BAC Chairman - UAH

(PDI - Oct. 14 & 21, 2005)

PNOC-Energy Development Corporation
Energy Center, Merritt Road, Fort Bonifacio
Taguig, Metro Manila, Philippines
PNOC Telephone 8931320 ext. 5179 Fax 8401461

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

PNOC-Energy Development Corporation (PNOC-EDC) invites prospective Partners to apply for eligibility and if subsequently found eligible, to bid for the project:

MINERAL EXPLORATION/ASSESSMENT WORK IN THE ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY EXPLORATION PERMIT AREA UNDER EXPLORATION PERMIT NO. EXP - 002 - 97- IX - SECOND RENEWAL (EDC 05-174)

Prospective partners must meet these criteria

1. Any Filipino citizen of legal age and with capacity to contract; or a corporation, partnership, association or cooperative organized or authorized for the purpose of engaging in mining with technical and financial capability to undertake mineral resources development and duly registered in accordance with law at least sixty percent (60%) of the capital of which is owned by Filipino citizens; provided, that a legally organized foreign-owned corporation (i.e. any corporation, partnership, association or cooperative duly registered in accordance with law in which less than fifty percent (50%) of the capital is owned by Filipino citizens) shall also be deemed eligible;
2. With a minimum authorized capital stock of Ten Million Philippine Pesos (PhP 10,000,000.00) and a minimum paid-up capital of Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Philippine Pesos (PhP 2,500,000.00);
3. With at least two (2) geologists having a minimum of five-year professional experience. The submission of curricula vitae and track records in mining operations and environmental management of the technical personnel who shall undertake the activities in the submitted Work Program Shall be strictly required as a mandatory requirement; and
4. In case of a corporation, must declare and show proof that it is already a holder of an Exploration Permit (EP), Mineral Agreement (MA) or Financial or Technical Assistance Agreement (FTAA).

The compliance of a corporation to criterion # 4 shall automatically establish its eligibility to bid for the subject project.

The Eligibility Documents shall be available for issuance to interested parties starting October 20, 2005 from the PD-Contracts Administration Group / BAC Secretariat [c/o F. T. Tolibas (loc. 5179)] upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Philippine Peso Five Hundred (PhP 500.00), or US Dollar Ten (US$ 10.00) in case of foreign bidders to defray courier expenses. The Bidding Documents shall be issued to eligible bidders on December 1, 2005 10:00 A.M. by the PD-Contracts Administration Group / BAC Secretariat [c/o F. T. Tolibas (loc. 5179)] upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Philippine Peso Five Thousand (PhP 5,000.00), or US Dollar One Hundred Thirty (US$ 130.00) in case of foreign bidders to defray courier expenses.

For purposes of clarifying certain issues, interested parties are invited to a clarificatory meeting to be held on October 27, 2005 10:00 A.M. at the BAC Conference Room, Bldg. V, PNOC-EDC, Energy Center, Merritt Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila, Philippines. Site Inspection will be held thereafter at the exploration site in Sibugay, Zamboanga, Philippines (to be scheduled later).

Interested parties shall submit their respective Letter of Intent and sealed Application for Eligibility in three (3) sets to the PD-Contracts Administration Group / BAC Secretariat, PNOC-Energy Development Corporation, Energy Center, Merritt Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila, Philippines not later than 5:00 P.M. on November 24, 2005. The parties' Application for Eligibility will be evaluated and parties who are eligible to bid will be notified by PNOC-EDC.

Eligible parties shall then be required to submit their Financial Proposal in two separate sealed envelopes. All bids submitted by eligible parties must be accompanied by a bid security, callable on demand and valid for a period of One Hundred Twenty (120) calendar days reckoned from the date of bid opening, for an amount of at least Philippine Peso One Hundred Seventy-Eight Thousand Eighty (PhP178,080.00), if in the form of cash, cashier's check / manager's check, or certified check; Philippine Peso Two Hundred Sixty-Seven Thousand One Hundred Twenty (PhP267,120.00), if in the form of a bank guarantee, or Philippine Peso Four Hundred Forty-Five Thousand Two Hundred (PhP445,200.00), if in the form of a surety bond. The bids must be delivered to:

Bids and Awards Committee
c/o PD-Contracts Administration Group / BAC Secretariat
PNOC-Energy Development Corporation
Energy Center, Merritt Road, Fort Bonifacio
Taguig, Metro Manila, Philippines

At or before 2:00 P.M. on December 6, 2005. Bids will be opened immediately thereafter in the presence of bidders' representative who chose to attend.

PNOC-EDC reserves the right to annul the bidding process, to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality in the bids received and to accept such bid which is most advantageous to PNOC-EDC without thereby incurring liability to the affected bidder or bidders or any obligation to inform the affected bidder or bidders on the ground of PNOC-EDC's action.

The Chairman
Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI--Oct. 14 & 21, 2005)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
PACIFIC CENTER BUILDING
SAN MIGUEL AVENUE, ORTIGAS CENTER
CITY OF PASIG

CIP II POWER CORPORATION,
Applicant.

ERC CASE NO. ____________

APPLICATION FOR (A.) AUTHORITY TO UNBUNDLE RATES IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 36 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9136; AND (B.) APPROVAL OF THE AUTOMATIC FUEL COST ADJUSTMENT (AFCA), WITH PRAYER FOR PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY.

X - X

APPLICATION

COMES NOW applicant, **CIP II POWER CORPORATION**, hereinafter referred to as **CIPP** for brevity, through undersigned counsels, and unto this Honorable Commission, most respectfully avers that:

1. **CIPP** is a domestic corporation duly organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the Republic of the Philippines with principal office address at C4-1 Carmelray Industrial Park II, Km. 52 National Highway, Calamba City, Laguna. Copies of its **ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION** and **BY-LAWS** are hereto attached and marked as **ANNEXES "A" and "B"** respectively.

2. **CIPP** is a wholly owned subsidiary of Ascendas Utilities Pte Ltd. and is a PEZA-registered Ecozone Utilities Enterprise engaged in the business of both generating and distributing power exclusively in Carmelray Industrial Park II in Calamba City, Laguna. It is a generation company not connected to the Luzon grid.

3. **CIPP** had its initial/partial operations in January 2000 with a capacity of 7MW only for Phase 1 and commenced full operations in December 2000 with a capacity of 21MW for both Phases 1 and 2.

4. On 26 December 2002, **CIPP**, through its then Operations Manager, **WILBERT U. BILLONES**, filed its letter-application before this Honorable Commission for the approval of its Unbundled Rates. A copy of the aforementioned letter is hereto attached and marked as **ANNEX "C"** hereof.

5. After evaluation of the letter-application of **CIPP**, the Regulatory Operations Services (R.O.S.) of this Honorable Commission found certain deficiencies and returned the said letter-application (inclusive of its attachments) to the Docket Section together with the Transmittal Sheet and Checklist. Said checklist was received by **CIPP**, through its Officer-in-Charge for Operations, Engr. **ARVIN VILLAVICENCIO**, only on 11 February 2005 when he made a personal follow-up on the status of **CIPP'S** unbundling application.

6. On 30 May 2005, undersigned counsel wrote the Chairman of this Honorable Commission, **HON. RODOLFO B. ALBANO, JR.** requesting, among other things, that (a.) **CIPP** be allowed to file its Rate Unbundling application using test year 2002 and its Financial Statements based on fiscal year 2001 ending 31 March 2002 for reasons stated in the Affidavit executed by its Director and General Manager, **MS. YOLANDA L. NASOLES**; and that (b.) said application be filed within thirty (30) days from receipt of the resolution approving the aforementioned request. Said request was granted by this Honorable Commission in the letter dated 24 August 2005 of Commissioner **ALEJANDRO Z. BARIN** and received by the law firm of undersigned counsels on 30 August 2005.

7. On 25 September 2005, **CIPP** filed an extension of fifteen (15) days from 29 September 2005 or until 14 October 2005 within which to file its Rate Unbundling Application.

8. On 22 September 2005, **CIPP** filed another letter-extension asking this Honorable Commission that it be given a last extension of fifteen (15) days from 29 September 2005 or until 14 October 2005 within which to file its Rate Unbundling application on the ground that it still has to secure the approval of its headquarters and stockholders in Singapore on the draft of the said application.

9. In compliance with the above request as embodied in its latest letter of 22 September 2005, **CIPP** herein applies for authority to unbundle its rates in accordance with Section 36 of Republic Act No. 9136. In further support of the instant application and in accordance with the Uniform Rate Filing Requirements (UFR) of this Honorable Commission, **CIPP** attaches the following:

Schedule "A"	- Historical Cost by Function (Fiscal Year ending 31 March 2002)
Schedule "C"	- Weighted Average Cost of Capital
Schedule "D"	- Functionalization Factors
Schedule "E-1"	- System Data
Schedule "E-2"	- Customer Adjustment
Schedule "E-3"	- Cost of Service Study at a Proposed Rate of Return
Schedule "F"	- Rate Design

10. Considering that there is only one (1) customer/rate class, i.e., **INDUSTRIAL CLASS** (export-oriented PEZA registered manufacturing companies), the required schedules for the Class Cost of Service Analysis (Schedule E-4), Class Allocation Factors (Schedule E-5) and Cross-subsidies (Schedule H), will not be applicable. Schedule G is likewise inapplicable to **CIPP** considering that it does not have any affiliates.

11. Aside from using its Financial Statements based on Fiscal Year ending 31 March 2002 (**ANNEX "D"**) as basis for its Unbundling of Rates Application, **CIPP** proposes that in the evaluation and resolution of the above-entitled case, the following be considered by this Honorable Commission:

HISTORICAL COST BY FUNCTION:
CIPP, in further support of the instant case proposes to use its Historical Cost by Function (Fiscal Year ending 31 March 2002) in lieu of appraisal considering that it started partial operations in January 2000 while full commercial operations started only in December 2000.

PROPOSED CHARGES FOR OTHER SERVICES:
Insofar as the other services are concerned, **CIPP** proposes that it be allowed to continue charging the existing charges for such services until such time that open access/retail competition shall have been approved and implemented. Upon implementation of open access/retail competition, **CIPP** will be filing the appropriate application for the approval of its charges for said services.

12. The unbundled rates resulting from the unbundling process as shown under Schedule F (Rate Design) hereof are as follows:

Generation Charge	- P7.5384 (Total Average Rate/kilowatt hour)
Distribution Charge	- P1.2461 (Total Average Rate/kilowatt hour)
Supply Charge	- P0.0777 (Average Rate/kWh-Supply)
Metering Charge	- P0.0822 (Average Rate/kWh-Metering)

Likewise, CIPP will include in its total unbundled rates other additional charges mandated and/or authorized by law, which are as follows:

Missionary	- P0.0373/kWh
Environmental	- P0.0025/kWh
Financial Benefits to Host Communities	- P0.0100/kWh

Based on the above-mentioned, CIPP, therefore, proposes a Total Average Rate per kilowatt-hour ("kWh") of P8.9942.

Under the same Rate Schedule (Schedule F), **CIPP** proposes a twelve (12%) rate of return on rate base.

13. **CIPP** further seeks approval by this Honorable Commission of its proposed **AUTOMATIC FUEL COST ADJUSTMENT (AFCA) FORMULA**, copy of which is hereto attached and marked as **ANNEX "E"** hereof. The herein proposed mechanism is an automatic monthly variable charge which shall be shown as a separate item in the CIPP monthly billing to its customers, calculated in accordance with Section 1 of the attached formula. This automatic charge will allow CIPP to recover all allowable incremental fuel costs or refund savings, if any, in an efficient and timely manner without the need for pre-evaluation and approval by this Honorable Commission.

14. **CIPP** likewise manifests herein that it has complied with the Pre-Filing requirements of this Honorable Commission as mandated under R.A. 9136 and Rule 3, Section 4, letter (e) of its Implementing Rules and Regulations.

A copy of the instant **APPLICATION** was likewise furnished the Park Administrator of Carmelray Industrial Park II as evidenced by the acknowledgment found on page 6 hereof.

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, in view of all the foregoing, it is respectfully prayed that pending hearing, the proposed **RATE SCHEDULE** and **AUTOMATIC FUEL COST ADJUSTMENT (AFCA) FORMULA** be provisionally approved and that after due notice and hearing, the same be made permanent.

Other relief just and equitable under the premises are likewise prayed for.

Quezon City for the City of Pasig, Metro Manila.

12 October 2005.

THE LAW FIRM
OF
MANJARES & MANJARES
Counsel for the Applicant
Suite 211 Jiao Building
No. 2 Timog Avenue, Quezon City

NORBERTO F. MANJARES, JR.
IBP OR NO. 618561
13 JANUARY 2005 – QUEZON CITY
PTR OR NO. 6027574
13 JANUARY 2005 – QUEZON CITY
ROLL NO. 14937

- and -

NORBERTO C. MANJARES, III
IBP OR NO. 618560
13 JANUARY 2005 – QUEZON CITY
PTR OR NO. 6027575
13 JANUARY 2005 – QUEZON CITY
ROLL NO. 41579

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

THE PARK ADMINISTRATOR
Business Center, Carmelray Industrial Park II
Km. 52 National Highway
Calamba City, Laguna

Sir:

In compliance with Rule 3, Section 4 (e) of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of R.A. 9136, we are transmitting herewith a copy of the application of **CIP II POWER CORPORATION** for (1.) authority to unbundle rates in accordance with Section 36 of R.A. 9136; and (2.) approval of the Automatic Fuel Cost Adjustment (AFCA), with prayer for provisional authority to be filed with the Energy Regulatory Commission.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of the same.

Very respectfully,

NORBERTO C. MANJARES, III
(for the firm)
CIP II Power Corporation

VERIFICATION AND CERTIFICATION

I, **YOLANDA L. NASOLES**, after having been duly sworn to in accordance with law, depose and say:

1. That I am a **DIRECTOR** and the **GENERAL MANAGER** of **CIP II POWER CORPORATION (CIPP)** the applicant-corporation in the above-entitled case;
2. That I have caused the preparation and filing of the foregoing **APPLICATION**;
3. That I have read the same and that all the allegations contained therein are true and correct of my own personal knowledge and belief;
4. That I hereby certify that **CIPP** has not commenced any other action or proceeding involving the same issue/s with the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals or any other tribunal or agency;
5. That to the best of my knowledge no such action or proceeding involving the same issue/s is pending with the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals or any other tribunal or agency;
6. That should I thereafter learn that an action or proceeding is pending with the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals or any other tribunal or agency, I hereby undertake to report such fact within five (5) days with this Honorable Commission.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NONE.

YOLANDA L. NASOLES

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 11th day of October 2005, affiant exhibited to me her Community Tax Certificate No. 14316071 issued on 17 January 2005 at Antipolo City.

NOTARY PUBLIC

ATTY. GREGORIO E. MAUNAHAN
NOTARY PUBLIC
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES ON DEC. 31, 2006
I.B.P. LIFE MEMBER ROLL NO. 1404
PTR NO. 771068/CALAMBA CITY 1-3-05
TIN-215-321-200

Doc. No. 2653;
Page No. 47;
Book No. X;
Series of 2005.

(PDI-Oct. 14, 2005)

TransCo
National Transmission Corporation

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Date : October 3, 2005
Loan No. : MIYAZAWA
Contract No.: Sp05.GSTP.Me-0041

1. The *National Power Corporation (NPC)* has received a loan from the ***Miyazawa Funds** for **138 kV Gen Santos – Tacurong Transmission Reinforcement Project*** and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contract ***Design, Furnishing and Installing, Testing and Commissioning 138kV Gen Santos – Tacurong Transmission Reinforcement Project.***
2. The ***National Transmission Corporation (TRANSCO)*** administering the implementation of the said project, now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the:

   Design, Furnishing and Installing, Testing and Commissioning 138kV Gen Santos – Tacurong Transmission Reinforcement Project.
3. Bidders may obtain further information from and inspect and acquire the bidding documents at the ***Office of the Manager, Bids and Contracts Management Department**, Ground Floor, Power Center, National Transmission Corporation, Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City, Metro Manila, Telephone No.: 981-2212; 981-2213, 981-4652; Telefax No.: 921-23-08.*
4. A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by interested eligible bidders starting October 13, 2005 upon submission of a written application to the above office, and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of ***Fifty Thousand Pesos (PHP 50,000.00).***
5. A two-envelope bidding procedure will be adopted. Bidders are to submit simultaneously two (2)-sealed envelopes, one (1) containing the technical proposal and one (1) containing the price proposal. Initially only the technical proposals will be opened. Technical proposals which are submitted by non-qualified bidders of which are not substantially responsive will be rejected. The substantially responsive technical proposals that have been submitted by qualified bidders are discussed with the bidders and the bidders are requested for full compliance. The bidders may or may not submit a supplementary price proposal, which contain the changes in price resulting from the discussed changes in the technical proposals. The original price proposal and the supplementary price proposal are opened simultaneously in public.
6. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of:
   Three Hundred Five Thousand US Dollars (US$305,000.00)
   The bid security must be included in the technical proposal.
   Pre-bid Conference shall be conducted on November 11, 2005.

   The deadline for the submission of bids will be on December 13, 2005 at 1:30 P.M. at the aforementioned address. Late submissions will be rejected.
7. The technical proposals together with the bid security will be opened immediately thereafter in the presence of bidder's representatives who choose to attend.
8. The price proposals will be opened in the presence of the bidder's representatives who choose to attend at the time and date and at the address to be advised by the Employer after approval of the evaluation of the technical proposals.
9. The total contract duration for the project is **450 calendar days.**
10. TRANSCO reserves the right to reject any or all Bids without offering any reasons, waive any required formality therein and to make an award to the bidder whose proposal is most advantageous to the government.
11. All communications shall be addressed to the Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee at aforementioned address.

(Sgd.) **GUILLERMO R. REDOBLADO**
Chairman
Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI – October 7 & 14, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Davao del Norte
CITY OF TAGUM

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Reference / Solicitation No.: 170204/006

The Local Government of Tagum City thru its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) invites interested suppliers to apply for eligibility and to bid for the supply and delivery of the hereunder stated item:

1. Four (4) units of latest Surplus, used & reconditioned 10-wheeler Yellow Body color Dump Trucks complete with brand new tires with one (1) brand new spare tire, brand new batteries, 10PDI 30 HP Engine – CXZ71J Model, 10 cu. meters – capacity dump box, single head light with LTO Registration, GSIS Insurance, VAT provisions, jack and tire wrench.

The approved budget is FOUR MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED EIGHTY THOUSAND PESOS P4,780,000.00) chargeable against LGU Development Loan

Calendar of Activities

	Particulars	Date/Time	Venue
1.	Issuance of Bid Documents :	October 31, 2005	BAC Secretariat
2.	Pre-Bid Conference	November 4, 2005 – 2:00 P.M.	ABC Conference Hall
3.	Dropping of Bids	November 14, 2005 – 8:00-12:00 Noon	BAC Secretariat
4.	Opening of Bids	November 14, 2005 – 2:00-5:00 P.M.	ABC Conference Hall
5.	Bid Evaluation	November 15, 2005	ABC Conference Hall
6.	Post Qualification	November 16, 2005	ABC Conference Hall
7.	Notice of Award	November 17, 2005	ABC Conference Hall

Bid documents will be available only to prospective bidders upon payment of non-refundable amount fixed by the Bids and Awards Committee. All bids shall be accompanied with a bid security equivalent to 1% for CASH Bond based on the TOTAL AMOUNT of the APPROVED BUDGET of the items.

For more information, please call the BAC Secretariat office at telephone numbers, 084-218-3639, 084-218-2349 or visit the Secretariat Office at 2nd floor of SP Building, Bonifacio St., Tagum City.

The Bids and Awards Committee a.) reserves the right to reject any or all bids; b.) waive any defect or formality; c.) declare failure of bidding if there is *prima facie* evidence of any prohibited act which restricts, suppresses or nullifies any or all bidding procedures to the disadvantage of the government; d.) assumes no obligation whatsoever to indemnify the bidder(s) for any expense that they may incur in the preparation of their bids; and e.) to accept only such bid(s) established to be the most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) **ATTY. ROLAND G. TUMANDA**
BAC Chairman
Acting City Legal Officer

(PDI - October 14 & 16, 2005)

JOB Market ONLINE
visit us at:
www.jobmarketonline.com

National Power Corporation

Invitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid

Republic of the Philippines

NPC, PSD 2005-011

VARIOUS EQUIPMENT, SPARE PARTS, WORK ORDERS INTENDED FOR NPC MAJOR POWER PLANTS

1. The NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION, through its approved Corporate Budget of CY 2005 intends to apply the sum of (see schedule under 9) being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract as listed below. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected/ disqualified at Bid opening.
2. The NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION now invites Bids from eligible Bidders for GOODS as listed below. Delivery of the GOODS are required by the date indicated in the bid documents. The description of an eligible Bidder is contained in Section II of the Bidding Documents, Instruction to Bidders (ITB).
3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act", and is restricted to Filipino Citizens/ sole proprietorships, organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights to privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to Republic Act 5183 (R.A. 5183) and subject to commonwealth Act 138 (C.A. 138). Only Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB. The bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid (LCB) shall advance to post qualification stage in order to finally determine responsiveness of the bid to technical and financial requirements of the project. The contract shall then be awarded to the Lowest Calculated and Responsive Bidder (LCRB) who shall determine as such during the post-qualification procedure.
4. Interested Bidders may obtain further information from NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM, Monday to Friday. However, issuance of Bidding Documents shall start on October 14, 2005 from 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM, Monday to Friday. No Bid Documents will be issued on the date of bidding.
5. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee in the amount as listed below. The method of payment will be cash. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.
6. The NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on the dates as listed below at National Power Corporation's available function rooms.
7. Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered to the address below on or before the dates as listed below. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid security in the form of cash, certified check, cashiers check, bank draft or irrevocable letter of credit equivalent to one percent (1%) of the ABC; Bank guarantee equivalent to one and a half percent (1.5%) of the ABC; Surety bond equivalent to two and a half percent (2.5%) of the ABC; Foreign guarantee equivalent to one hundred percent (100%) of the ABC, or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency. Late Bids shall not be accepted.
8. Bid opening shall be on the dates as listed below at National Power Corporation's available function rooms. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidder's representatives who choose to attend at the address below.
9. ITEMS FOR BID

SCHEDULE NUMBER	PR NUMBER	ITEM DESCRIPTION	APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE CONTRACT	BID DOCS. PRICE
DATE OF BIDDING: NOVEMBER 9, 2005; 2:00 PM				
11A1	3BAC-05-692 (RP)	UNINTERRUPTIBLE POWER SUPPLY, ENERTRONIC OR EQUIV., 20KVA, DUAL REDUNDANT	P 6,000,000.00	P 3,000.00
11A2	3BAC-05-671(RP)	J.O.-SUPPLY OF HARDWARE/S OFTWARE INCLUDING INSTALLATION, TEST & COMMISSIONING OF DISTRIBUTED CONTROL SYSTEM	P 9,900,000.00	P 3,000.00
11A3	3BAC-05-693 (RP)	J.O.-SUPPLY OF HARDWARE/SOFTWARE INCLUDING INSTALLATION, TEST & COMMISSIONING FOR UPGRADING OF TURBINE GOVERNING SYSTEM	P 9,900,000.00	P 3,000.00
DATE OF BIDDING: NOVEMBER 10, 2005; 2:00 PM				
11B1	3MGM-05-182 (RP)	J.O.-REPAIR/REHABILITATION OF AIR HANDLING UNITS OF PLANT C	P 3,000,000.00	P 2,000.00
11B2	3MGT-05-200 (ZC)	SODIUM HYDROXIDE (CAUSTIC SODA)	P 7,700,000.00	P 3,000.00
11B3	3MGM-05-214 (LS)	EXPANSION JOINT, BALANCE BELLOWS TYPE	P 4,625,000.00	P 2,000.00
11B4	3MGM-05-221 (LS)	BAR /SHAFTING, MATL: JIS G 4303, GRADE SUS 316L	P 1,800,000.00	P 1,000.00
DATE OF BIDDING: NOVEMBER 11, 2005; 2:00 PM				
11C1	2BCF-05-306 (ZC)	ROCKWOOL INSULATING BOARDS, PLAIN & WIRED	P 1,700,000.00	P 1,000.00
11C2	2BCF-05-507 (ZC)	FLEXIBLE BULK BAGS, LAMINATED W.P.P BAG W/ 1 PLY KRAFT, ARMOUR ROCKS & STONES	P 8,190,000.00	P 3,000.00
11C3	2BCF-05-359 (NY)	VAPOUR EXTRACTOR & MOTOR	P 1,100,000.00	P 1,000.00
11C4	2BCF-05-410 (NY)	YOKE MOUNTED DIAPHRAGM VALVE	P 1,165,000.00	P 1,000.00
DATE OF BIDDING: NOVEMBER 14, 2005; 2:00 PM				
11D1	1MCF-05-423 (JP)	J.O.-REPLACEMENT OF VEGA ULTRASONIC COAL BUNKER LEVEL MEASURING SYSTEM	P 1,500,000.00	P 1,000.00
11D2	1MCF-05-465 (JP)	J.O.- FOR UNDER WATER INSTALLATION OF 20 YRS. CATHODIC PROTECTION SYSTEM	P 1,457,940.00	P 1,000.00
DATE OF BIDDING: NOVEMBER 15, 2005; 2:00 PM				
11E1	1MCF-05-452 (LS)	J.O.- REHAB, TEST & COMMISSIONING OF ACID REGENERATION SYSTEM FOR MIXED BED UNIT	P 1,500,000.00	P 1,000.00
11E2	1MCF-05-522 (LS)	BELT CLEANERS ASSEMBLIES	P 2,400,000.00	P 2,000.00
DATE OF BIDDING: NOVEMBER 16, 2005; 2:00 PM				
11F1	1UAH-05-092 (ZC)	SUBMERSIBLE PUMP	P 1,600,000.00	P 1,000.00
11F2	1MAG-05-104 (JP)	J.O.-FURNISH TECH'L. ASSISTANCE & SUPERVISION FOR OVERHAULING, TESTING & RECOMMISSIONING OF GENERATOR	P 14,000,000.00	P 5,000.00
DATE OF BIDDING: NOVEMBER 17, 2005; 2:00 PM				
11G1	0TMS-05-014 (ZC)	PORTABLE STACK EMISSION	P 2,000,000.00	P 1,000.00
11G2	0WIT-05-087 (EA)	PAPER BOND, 70 GSM, A4 SIZE	P 1,120,000.00	P 1,000.00
DATE OF BIDDING: NOVEMBER 18, 2005; 2:00 PM				
11H1	2BCF-05-369 (NY)	CONTROL VALVE FOR HOGGING EJECTOR	P 1,495,000.00	P 1,000.00
11H2	2BCF-05-458 (NY)	TRIPLE & DUAL JACKING OIL PUMP	P 6,500,000.00	P 3,000.00
11H3	2BCF-05-405 (NY)	SPARE PARTS FOR AIRLOCK VALVE ASSEMBLY	JPY 4,230,400.00	P 2,000.00
DATE OF BIDDING: NOVEMBER 21, 2005; 2:00 PM				
11I1	3TPM-05-098 (RP)	J.O.-FABRICATION & INSTALLATION OF ENCLOSURE OF MULTI-STACK AIRCON & CONDENSING UNITS OF PACKAGE TYPE AIRCON AT PLANT A & C	P 1,500,000.00	P 1,000.00
11I2	3TPM-05-147 (RP)	RUBBER EXPANSION JOINT, SERIES: HIGH TEMPERATURE	P 7,200,000.00	P 3,000.00
11I3	3TPM-05-157 (RP)	J.O.-REPAIR/REPLACEMENT OF DEFECTIVE PARTS OF TRANSFORMERS CUBICLE CONTROL PANEL	P 2,200,000.00	P 2,000.00
DATE OF BIDDING: NOVEMBER 22, 2005; 2:00 PM				
11J1	3TPM-05-165 (RP)	J.O.-INSTALLATION OF SUBMERSIBLE SLUDGE PUMP	P 1,500,000.00	P 1,000.00
11J2	3TPM-05-180 (RP)	J.O.-REHABILITATION OF EXCITATION TRANSFORMERS OF UNIT 5 & 6	P 2,402,400.00	P 2,000.00
DATE OF BIDDING: NOVEMBER 23, 2005; 2:00 PM				
11K1	3TPM-05-209 (LS)	J.O.-FOR REPLACEMENT OF FOUR (4) TEMPERATURE MONITOR	P 3,020,000.00	P 2,000.00
11K2	3TPM-05-229 (RP)	J.O.-DISTMANTLING OF OLD 230KV OCB'S & INSTALLATION OF NEW UNIT INCLUDING TEST & COMMISSIONING W/ ACCESSORIES	P 6,000,000.00	P 3,000.00
DATE OF BIDDING: NOVEMBER 24, 2005; 2:00 PM				
11L1	5LGP-05-228 (JP)	HOTWEL PUMP DISCHARGE	P 6,780,000.00	P 3,000.00
11L2	5LGP-05-244 (LS)	J.O.-RECONDITIONING/RESTORATION OF 24 ERODED COOLING TOWER BLADES	P 2,600,000.00	P 2,000.00
11L3	5PGP-05-129 (JP)	PUMP, TURBINE VERTICAL ASSEMBLY	P 2,100,000.00	P 2,000.00
DATE OF BIDDING: NOVEMBER 28, 2005; 2:00 PM				
11M1	5PGP-05-123 (LS)	J.O.-REHAB & UPGRADING OF FIRE DETECTION, ALARM & CO2 FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEM	P 7,800,000.00	P 3,000.00
11M2	5PGP-05-351 (LS)	RING, GLAND PACKINGS	P 5,269,000.00	P 3,000.00
11M3	5PGP-05-275 (LS)	J.O.-REPAIR/RECONDITIONING OF ONE (1) PC. HOTWELL PUMP VOLUTE CASING	P 3,500,000.00	P 2,000.00
DATE OF BIDDING: NOVEMBER 29, 2005; 2:00 PM				
11N1	5PGP-05-131 (JP)	CONDENSER CONTROL VALVE/ACTUATOR	P 11,170,500.00	P 4,000.00
11N2	5PGP-05-277 (JP)	SPARE PARTS FOR CONTROL AIR COMPRESSOR	P 1,207,100.00	P 1,000.00
11N3	5PGP-05-285 (JP)	J.O.-TOTAL REPLACEMENT OF WIRE ROPES OF OVERHEAD CRANE	P 3,600,000.00	P 2,000.00

NOTE: A Pre-Bidding Conference will be held at any available NPC Function Room for the following bidding schedules on:

11A1-11A3	October 19, 2005; 2:00 PM	11H1-11H3	October 28, 2005; 2:00 PM
11B1-11B4	October 20, 2005; 2:00 PM	11I1-11I3	November 7, 2005; 2:00 PM
11C1-11C4	October 21, 2005; 2:00 PM	11J1-11J2	November 8, 2005; 2:00 PM
11D1-11D2	October 24, 2005; 2:00 PM	11K1-11K2	November 9, 2005; 9:00 AM
11E1-11E2	October 25, 2005; 2:00 PM	11L1-11L3	November 10, 2005; 9:00 AM
11F1-11F2	October 26, 2005; 2:00 PM	11M1-11M3	November 14, 2005; 9:00 AM
11G1-11G2	October 27, 2005; 2:00 PM	11N1-11N3	November 15, 2005; 9:00 AM

10. The NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION
PROCUREMENT SERVICES DIVISION
MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
Agham Rd. cor. Quezon Avenue
Diliman, Quezon City
Tel No. +632 921 2818
rccardeno@napocor.gov.ph
Fax No. +632 921 7906/921 3382
www.napocor.gov.ph

BIDS & AWARDS COMMITTEE-PSD

(PDI - Oct. 14, 2005)

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

OPPORTUNITY TO WORK ABROAD

PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMIST

(Chemist or Chemical Engineer)

1. B.S. degree in Chemistry
2. Male/Female
3. Must have hands on experience with analytical instruments HPLC, and G.C., Dissolution, UV and familiarity with USP and NF.
4. H-1 Visa is an advantage
5. Resumé, Transcript of Records and 2x2 picture.

Interview will be held on Oct. 18-20, 2005 at Heritage Hotel, EDSA Pasay City. Please call Lilia Sta. Ana at 838-48-57; 0920-9525251 for the schedule.

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
KAGAWARAN NG KATARUNGAN
PANGASIWAAN SA PATALAAN NG LUPAIN
(LAND REGISTRATION AUTHORITY)
East Avenue cor. NIA Road
Quezon City

AGENCY: **Land Registration Authority;**
POSITION: **Deputy Register of Deeds II;**
SALARY GRADE: **21;**
PLACE OF ASSIGNMENT: **Region 3;**
ITEM NUMBERS: **LRAB-DRD2-4 - Tarlac;**
NO. OF VACANCIES: **1;**
QUALIFICATION STANDARDS: **Bachelor of Laws; 1 year of relevant experience; 4 hours of relevant training; RA 1080**

NOTICE

In addition to the list of cancelled and delisted agencies that was published on 30 April 2005, the following companies do not have valid license to recruit landbased and seabased workers for overseas employment, due to the cancellation of their license for recruitment violations.

1. ASIA MED INTERNATIONAL MANPOWER PHILS.
2. BETTER LIVING INT'L. PLACEMENT, INC.
3. CMS INT'L. AGENCY INC.
4. DANIEL'S INTERNATIONAL PLACEMENT AGENCY
5. EASTERN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC.
6. EUROOSE MARITIME INTERNATIONAL CORP.
7. FIL-MALAY RECRUITMENT AGENCY, INC.
8. GREATER MANAGEMENT INT'L., EMPLOYMENT AGENCY
9. JAAT RECRUITMENT & RESOURCES AGENCY
10. JERICA MANPOWER SVCS.
11. MARRICK ARTIST PLACEMENT SERVICES
12. MEDICAL PERSONNEL SVCS., LTD. CO.
13. MEI PLACEMENT INT'L.
14. MGM WORLDWIDE MANPOWER
15. MICROPHIL GUAM DEV'T., INC.
16. PALIMBO OVERSEAS SHIPPING TRADERS CORP.
17. PHILCAM INTERNATIONAL RESOURCES CORP.
18. PHILIPPINES-UNITED KINGDOM INTERNATIONAL
19. RTS INTERNATIONAL MANPOWER SVCS., INC.
20. RVJ MANNING & SHIPPING SERVICES
21. WELL BEING RECRUITER MANILA INC.

The public is encouraged to immediately report to the POEA any recruitment activity conducted by the above named entitles.

24 Hour Hotlines
722-1144 • 722-1155

PHILIPPINE OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT ADMINISTRATION

(PDI – October 14, 2005)

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By applying critical thinking to the tasks and challenges you face in your work, you will begin to experience breakthroughs you never thought possible. You will feel sure you really are on the thinking edge—that you really have "thought of everything!"

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How You Will Benefit
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- Learn how to challenge assumptions and expand perceptions about situations
- Come to better conclusions and decisions more often
- Influence and persuade others with clear thinking and clear language
- Manage team idea exchanges
- Learn how to find out what you don't know—and solve the real problem
- Apply what you learn to the day-to-day operation of your business

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For further information, call Jasmin Runez at telephone numbers 8451324 or 7596680 or e-mail at jrunez@imperialconsulting.com.ph

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UNILAB AVP-Proessional Relations Management Division Francisco "Kit" M. Morales receives the plaque of honorary membership to the Filipino-Chinese Dental Society (FCDS) from Dr. Norma Chiu (right), FCDS president and Dr. Polly Tambunliong, FCDS chair on awards for his continuing assistance to the upliftment of the dental profession.

NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION

Notice is hereby given that the Amended Articles of Incorporation of UNIDEN PHILIPPINES LAGUNA, INC. shortening the term of its existence up to September 30, 2005 thereby dissolving the said corporation on said date have been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

All persons having claim against said corporation are requested to present the same at 25 Binary St., Light Industry and Science Park (LISP) Bo. Diezmo, Cabuyao, Laguna for immediate settlement.

This announcement will serve as notice to all concerned of the legal dissolution of the aforesaid corporation.

(Sgd.) **YASUTAKA SAGIYAMA**
President

(PDI - Sept. 30 & Oct. 14, 2005)

LCR FORM 10.1 (LCRO)

Republic of the Philippines
Local Civil Registry Office
Province of Misamis Oriental
Cagayan de Oro City

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

In compliance with Section 5 of R.A. No. 9048, a notice is hereby served to the public that **IMIE LISCANO ATIENZA** has filed with this Office a petition for change of first name from **LILIBETH** to **IMIE** in the Certificate of Live Birth of **LILIBETH PABRIGA LISCANO** who was born on **August 11, 1965** at **KAPATAGAN LANAO DEL NORTE** and whose parents are **FERNANDO LISCANO** and **ARISTONICA PABRIGA.**

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his written opposition within this office not later than October 14, 2005.

(Sgd.) **NORMA S. DIPUTADO**
City Civil Registrar

(PDI-Oct. 7 & 14, 2005)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The following are the newly-elected officers and members of the Board of Directors of **LYKA INTERNATIONAL MANPOWER SERVICES, INC.** for the year 2005-2006.

CARMELITA O. JAVELLANA, Chairperson & President
CHARMANE J. KANAHASHI, Vice President & Corporate Secretary
LEANDRO ANTONIO J. KANAHASHI, Treasurer
JUAN CARLO ANTONIO J. KANAHASHI, Director
KATSUYOSHI KANAHASHI, Director

We published this to conform with POEA Rules and Regulations.

(PDI - Oct. 14, 2005)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This is to inform the public that **LYKA INTERNATIONAL MANPOWER SERVICES, INC.** with business address at 2nd and 3rd Flrs. - 2D Don Diego Bldg. #14 Judge Jimenez St., Brgy. Pinagkaisahan, Cubao, Quezon City **has resume its operations effective October 1, 2005.**

We published this to conform with POEA Rules and Regulations.

The Management

(PDI - Oct. 14, 2005)

Are you dragging yourself...

Up

or

Down

Be aware of what can you become.

Re-discover your greatness and be all that you can be.

Personal Awareness and Leadership seminar

a three day life enhancing seminar that you will surely enjoy on Oct 14 from 6pm to 12pm, Oct 15 and 16 from 9 am to 9pm Investment is P7,000.00. Early registrants get discounts.

PowerSpeak
8405958 8405960 0917-555 JOEY (5639)
email powerspeak@gmail.com
www.powerspeakph.com

Unit 210 Cattleya Building, 235 Salcedo Street, Legazpi Village, Makati City, Philippines

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2005 FFCCCII Mega Job Fair

EIGHTY (80) LOCAL COMPANIES AND TWENTY (20) licensed overseas employment agencies will gather on Oct. 14, at the Federation of Filipino Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Inc. (FFCCCII) in coordination with the Department of Labor and Employment-National Capital Region (DOLE-NCR) will once again be a major job fair at the Ground Floor, Federation Center, Muelle de Binondo, Binondo, Manila from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. FFCCCII conduct this job fair as part of its commitment to help government facilitate the employment of thousands of jobless Filipinos in Mega Manila.

'Amazing Philippine Beauties 2005'

THE AMAZING PHILIPPINE THEATRE (APT) is the first and biggest theatrical variety show that showcases the very best of Filipino gay talents.

The 3rd nationwide search for Amazing Philippine Beauties 2005 is now being organized in cooperation with the Pasay Tourism and Cultural Development Office.

This contest aims to give opportunities for the gay gender to display their total personality as well as to be more accepted in today's world.

The contest will have a pre-pageant night on Oct 14. The coronation night will be on Oct. 21, 8 p.m., at the Manila Film Center, CCP Complex, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City.

Sponsors of this grand event are Bayview Park Hotel Manila, HI Magazine, Ricky Reyes Salon, Red Line Marketing & Advertising, and Air Philippines. Official radio stations are 101.1 Yes FM and 90.7 Love Radio.

For more information, call 833-5713 or 834-8870.

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"We make a life by what we give."

Pedro R. Peña

MAY 16, 1921
OCTOBER 10, 2005

Husband to **Tessie.** Father to **Adie, Loily, Edwin & Chaching, Glenda & Mon, Dino & Digna, Pico & She,** and **Reza & Chris.** Grandpa to **Squeaky, Becky, Fidel, Rebecca, Raymond, Dante, Denise, Danna, Chablis, John, Katrina and Robert.**

Interment is scheduled at the Eternal Gardens, Caloocan City, on Sunday, October 16, 2005 after the 9:00am Mass at the Loyola Memorial Chapels, Guadalupe, Makati.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."
John 3:16

Our Sincere Thanks

We,
Leonila & Proceso, Florencia, Soledad & Jose
Fe & Alejandro, Rosario, Adoracion & Petronio,
Carmelita, Apolinar & Benilda,
and Dolores & Lope,

the children of the late

APOLINARIO E. BORDADOR

wish to express our heartfelt gratitude and sincerest appreciation to all of you who offered masses and prayers, sent flowers and letters of sympathy, spent precious time with us, and expressed in countless ways your love concern, and support during our time of bereavement.

TRISTAN VICENTE MANAS CRUZ

(February 1, 1950 – October 13, 2005)

- Former Vice President PCI Bank
- Former Vice President 1st E Bank
- Former Senior Manager AMG Manilabank
- Ateneo de Manila University
  - AB General Studies 1971
  - HS Batch 1967
  - GS Batch 1963

Cherished husband of **Ann**, beloved Father of **Jose Virgilio (JV), Monica Virginia (Mavi** and **Miguel Angelo (Mikey)**, grandfather of **Sam**, devoted son of **Virgilio** (†) and **Virginia**, and treasured brother of **Enya** and **Clarissa**, passed away peacefully and was warmly welcomed by our Lord on October 13, 2005.

His cremated remains will lie in state at the Loyola Guadalupe Memorial Chapels until Sunday, October 16, 2005, after the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

"... we know that when the earthly tent we live in is taken down... we shall have a home in heaven..."

R. I. P.

Suzanne "Susie" v Winternitz

24 March 1912 – 10 October 2005

Widow of the late Dr. Georg v Winternitz
Mother of George and his wife Amor
Grandmother to Georg Miguel "Chip" and Joseph Gabriel "Migui"

Passed peacefully unto Eternal life comforted by the Sacraments of the Holy Roman Catholic Church.
Her remains lie in state at La Funeraria Paz, Sucat, Parañaque.
Funaral Mass will be celebrated at the Manila Memorial Park Chapel At 9:00 a.m., Sunday, October 16, 2005.
Interment will follow at MMP-Dasmariñas, Cavite.

In lieu of flowers, donations to either the Philippine Foundation C.E.D. or the SOS Children's Village Phils., Inc. will be highly appreciated.

The pious reader is requested to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Our Dearly Beloved

CHARLES C. HOLMES

Honey, Daddy and Grandpa

Peacefully joined our Creator
On October 11, 2005 at the age of 65.

His wife **Luisa**, children **Ricky** and **Diditte, Ronnie** and **Jane, Rodney** and **Tek, Ruth, Rica** and **Mike**, grandchildren, brother **James**, sisters **Angie** and **Fe**, in-laws, relatives, and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the family residence
225 Floraville Subd., Panapaan,
Km. 17 Aguinaldo H-way, Bacoor, Cavite

Cremation will be on Sunday, October 16, 2005 at the Manila Memorial Park Crematorium
Sucat Road, Parañaque after the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

"I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."
John 14:6

"I am the Resurrection and Life, He who believes in Me will live, even though she dies, and whoever believes in Me will never die."
John 11:25-26

Pacita Remolacio Torio

of Tuguegarao City and Quezon City
peacefully joined the Lord on October 12, 2005
at the age of 73.

Her loving husband **Manuel** (+); children **Henie** & **Ramon; Ricky** & **Jo; Erwin** & **Luc; Arlene** & **Phil**, and **Caroline.**
grandchildren; **Ross, Grace, Chris, Pam, Melanie, Monina, Margaret** (+), **Lee Ann, Abegail** and **Jam-Jam.**
brothers and sisters: **Celis** (+), **Rogelio, Angel, Eliseo** and **Emma,**
brothers & sisters-in-law, nephews and nieces,
relatives and friends request eternal repose of her soul.
Her remains lie in state at Loyola Memorial Chapels, Guadalupe, Makati City.

Interment will be on Sunday, October16, 2005
at Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City
after the 8:30 a.m. Mass at Loyola Memorial Chapel C
in Guadalupe, Makati City.

Silverio V. Villaseñor "Veo"

Passed away in the Grace of our Lord on October 11, 2005 at the age of 64.

His remains lie in state at their residence in Lucban, Quezon.
Interment will be on October 15, 2005 after the 12 noon Mass at
San Luis Memorial Park, Lucban, Quezon.

Remedios Magsaysay Irlanda

Peacefully joined our Lord on October 12, 2005 at the age of 83.

Her remains lie in state at Our Lady of Beautiful Love Church, Merville Park, Parañaque City.

Her children,
Connie, Val, Raul, Gina,
and their families request the pious readers to join them in praying for her eternal happiness in heaven.

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BUSINESS

For RP, CME use means P23B/year in savings

By Abigail L. Ho

THE PHILIPPINE BIODIESEL ALLIANCE (TBPA) is pressing for the implementation of the B1 program, mandating the use of a one-percent blend of coco methyl ester (CME) with diesel.

The group claims that, with the program in full swing, the country can save as much as P23 billion a year.

Rafael Diaz, TBPA executive director, said P2.1 billion of this total would come from actual displacement of diesel imports, while the remaining P20.7 billion would come from a 10-percent mileage improvement, which would correspond to a 10-percent reduction in the country's annual diesel requirements.

With the B1 program, the country can shave 700 million liters off its annual diesel imports, translating to foreign exchange savings of some P20 billion, Diaz said.

Users of CME-blended diesel could also expect their maintenance costs to go down, he said, due to CME's superior cleaning and lubricating properties, more efficient combustion, and less engine vibration due to its higher cetane number and inherent oxygen content.

Boosting engine power and acceleration response, CME-blended diesel could improve fuel mileage by between 10 percent and 20 percent, resulting in savings for motorists, Diaz added.

He noted that in countries such as the United States, as much as 5 percent of CME was blended with their diesel fuel. The blend tends to improve engine performance as well as reduce harmful emissions and air pollutants.

Apart from the cost savings, displaced diesel imports and cleaner emissions, he said the B1 program could generate some P4.2 billion in new money for the coconut industry each year.

Quoting the Department of Energy, TBPA said around 3.5 million farmers and 20 million other Filipinos connected with the coconut industry would benefit from the program.

Also, the use of CME-blended diesel will introduce the ester industry to the country and pave the way for the creation of new jobs, the group said.

The B1 program could also open the country to the global biofuel trade, fanning prospects for export.

Resource development would also be enhanced as the B1 program could promote investments in coconut replanting, fertilization and the establishment of new CME processing plants in the country.

Telcos take Sun suit to higher court

By Clarissa S. Batino

JUST WHEN EVERYBODY THOUGHT THEY were done picking on the small player, the country's two mobile phone giants have gone to the Court of Appeals to stop Sun Cellular from offering the unlimited 24/7 plan.

Pilipino Telephone Corp., a subsidiary of Smart Communications Inc., and Innove Communications Inc., a wholly owned unit of Globe Telecom Inc., have separately asked the appellate court to also restrain the National Telecommunications Commission from implementing a May 24, 2005 order, which they claimed favored Sun Cellular.

Both carriers alleged that NTC erred in issuing the May order. Instead of deciding whether there was merit in the restraining order the two telco's sought against Sun Cellular's 24/7, the commission chose not to rule on the issue and instead came up with an entirely new ruling.

Piltel has Talk N' Text and Innove owns the Touch Mobile brand. Sun Cellular is the brand name of Digitel Mobile Phils. Inc.

The NTC, in its May 24 order, allowed phone companies to keep on offering unlimited price deals within their networks and set their own standards for these innovative promos.

In that order, the commission effectively lifted a 2002 circular requiring wireless players to maintain a network quality that would connect 93 out of 100 calls on the first attempt and would not prematurely drop 95 out of 100 calls.

"It is relevant to point out that when the commission did not issue a cease and desist order prayed for by Smart and Globe on Sun's 24/7 plan, these two dominant carriers launched shortly thereafter their own innovative price plans," said the NTC in its May order.

Innove, in its petition, asked the Court of Appeals to nullify the May 24 and Sept. 22 orders of the NTC, allowing Sun Cellular to offer 24/7 on a permanent basis.

The Globe unit also urged the appellate court to direct Digitel Mobile to comply with the 2002 performance standards.

Sun Cellular set off a price war when it launched a year ago its unlimited within-network call and text plan called 24/7. Last month, it started selling another promo called Daylite Call and Text Unlimited, which charges a peso a minute on calls from 6 p.m. to 11:59 p.m. To protect their market share, Smart and Globe in March started offering similar deals because Sun Cellular's 24/7 plan was selling like hotcakes.

Regulator pushes capital market awareness in RP

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

THE PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE SAID IT would push for the inclusion of capital market, securities and investments as a required subject in the business curricula of colleges and universities in the country.

Francis Lim, PSE president and chief executive officer, said in a statement that this would improve not only the competency of prospective capital market practitioners but also raise investment awareness and develop an investment-conscious culture among Filipinos.

Less than one percent of Filipinos invest in stocks.

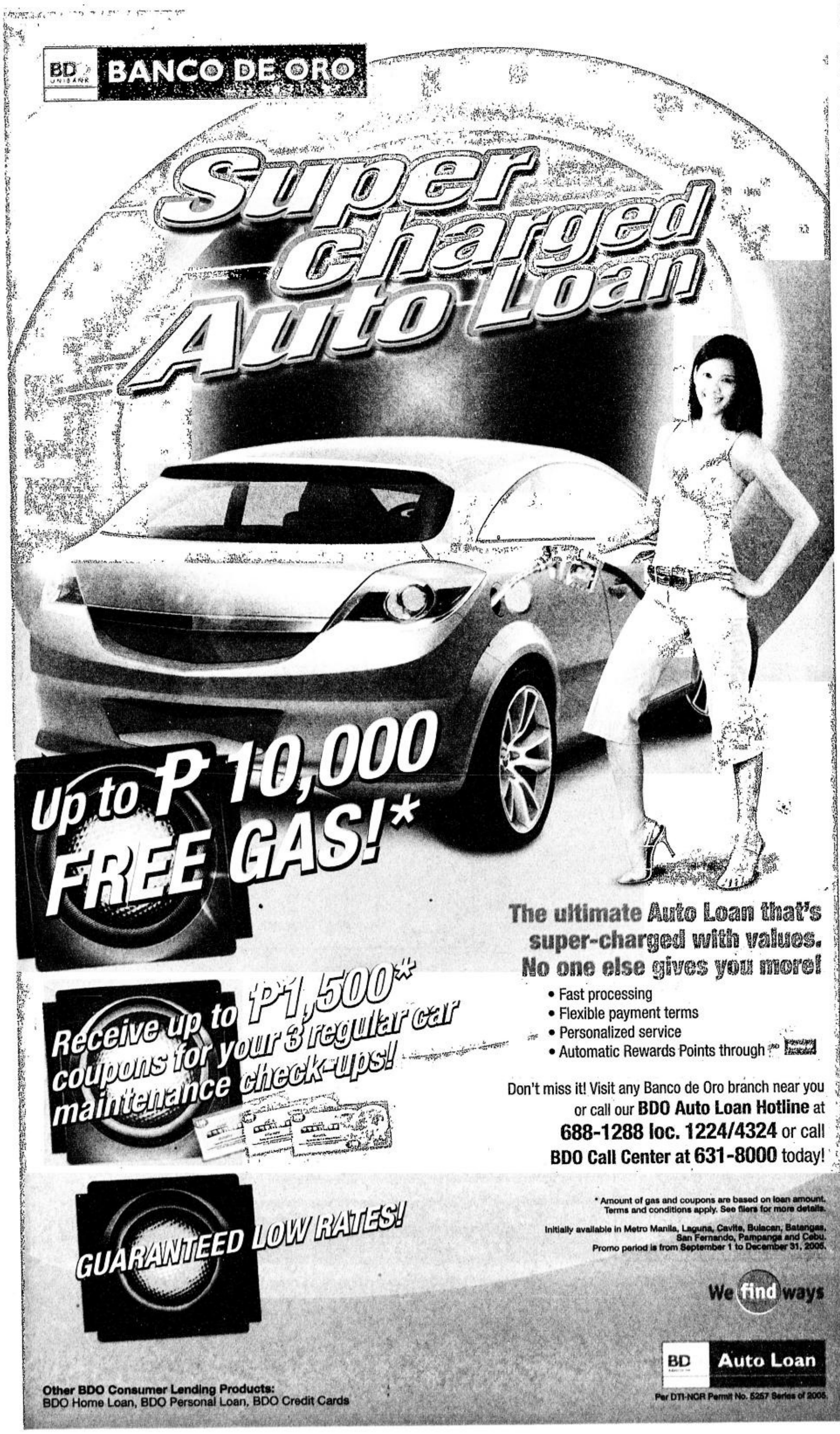
There is a perception that the stock market is only for "big" investors, he said.

The PSE is currently in talks with key institutions such as the newly formed Capital Market Institute of the Philippines (CMIP), the Philippine Association of Collegiate Schools of Business (PACSB), Capital Market Development Council, the Securities and Exchange Commission and Department of Finance for this plan.

Lim proposed to make the study of the stock market a separate subject in the college curricula to lure younger participants in the capital market and cultivate them as skilled, competent and responsible market practitioners.

CMIP president Reynaldo Nograles said the proposed policy is similar to the present policy of making Accounting, Business Law and other general education subjects mandatory in college.

"In terms of benefits, there is even more reason to make capital market a compulsory subject in business curricula because its ultimate objective is not only to improve the level of competency of the students in the subject, but also contribute to economic development and business activity of the country," he said.



BUSINESS Friday

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Margie Quimpo-Espino

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Tourists will be flocking to Asia, is RP ready?

By Edd Fuentes
Contributor

THE ASIA-PACIFIC TOURISM INdustry is set for immense growth in the next 10 years, buoyed by an expected influx of tourists with greater spending power. Is the Philippines competitive enough to get a slice of the pie?

According to expert speakers at the recent MasterCard Forum on "The Future of Travel and Tourism in Asia-Pacific," the global tourism industry is in for significant growth over the next decade, with the fastest growth expected from the Asia-Pacific region.

The MasterCard Forum on the Future of Travel and Tourism in Asia-Pacific was held recently in Singapore in collaboration with Universitas 21 Global. Industry experts shared predictive market intelligence and insights on emerging trends that are expected to shape the travel and tourism industry in Asia-Pacific in the coming years. Forum attendees included key players in the travel, hospitality and transportation sectors, as well as government agencies tasked with managing and promoting the tourism industry.

Speakers at the forum included Dr. Yuwa Hedrick-Wong, economic advisor to MasterCard International in Asia-Pacific; Dr. Michael Goldberg, chief academic officer, Universitas 21 Global; Prof. Christine Ennew, dean, faculty of law and social science, professor of marketing, Nottingham University Business School; and Dr. Clint Laurent, director & chief technical officer, Asian Demographics.

According to Hedrick-Wong, the tourism market value of Asia-Pacific is projected to reach $165 billion by 2014, which is Hong Kong's current GDP (in 2004 dollar terms), 1.5 times Singapore's, and 1.9 times that of the Philippines'.

Last year, the global tourism industry witnessed the largest growth in the number of tourists since 1984. The number of tourists grew by 10 percent reaching 760 million, with all regions of the world, including the Asia-Pacific, benefiting from the positive growth. In the next 10 years, millions of tourists are projected to flock to the Asia-Pacific region, an increase that is expected to improve the region's economy.

China and India will get the lion's share of this influx. By 2015, China will be the second largest destination globally in terms of tourism's contribution to its economy, and will lead in terms of jobs created to service industry demands.

"The tourism industry is surging toward exponential growth. Increasing wealth and better access to credit, strong growth in first-time travelers across a broad cross-section of income groups, the diversity of Asian source markets and the proliferation of low cost carriers, will set the stage for tourism demand both intra-regionally and from overseas," said Hedrick-Wong.

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YUWA Hedrick-Wong, Clint Laurent, Christine Ennew and Michael Goldberg

Tourists will be flocking ...

From page B2-1

The number of people in Asia who can afford to travel will increase by more than 66 percent, from 384 million in 2004 to 639 million by 2014.

New tourist paradigm

Though Europe and the US are still important tourist generating markets, Asia is becoming the fastest growing market. This growth will come mainly from the volume market and will be fueled by China and India. Spending on tourism by Chinese residents is predicted to increase by 9.5 percent per annum, with India also experiencing fast growth in tourism expenditure. Others with high growth rates include Korea, Japan and Singapore.

In terms of importance measured according to tourist spend, China will become a dominant force in the lower income brackets, capturing over 68 percent of the volume ($4,000-$15,000 per annum households) and value ($15,000-$30,000 per annum household) markets. Japan will dominate the high value ($30,000-$100,000 per annum) and luxury ($100,000+ per annum) markets with an 88 percent share.

Moderate growth in GDP figures forecasts a huge impact on the affordability of leisure travel. The expected rise in disposable income, better access to credit, increased accessibility of travel among younger age groups, new regional attractions and political liberalization will all combine to propel the tourism industry forward.

These factors will be coupled with the growth and purchasing power of Asian women travelers, who will contribute significantly to the emerging "traveler-shopper" phenomenon. The Asian traveler-shopper segment alone is forecasted to spend $13.4 billion by 2011 in Hong Kong, Seoul, Singapore and Bangkok.

The profile of the future traveler is also evolving: young singles and families will decline as a proportion of all tourists. Working-age empty nesters and the retired will grow with retirees emerging as a very lucrative segment in the more affluent market segments.

Working-age empty nesters and retired segments tend to come from more developed countries, while the family segment is less affluent, mostly coming from Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan and South Korea.

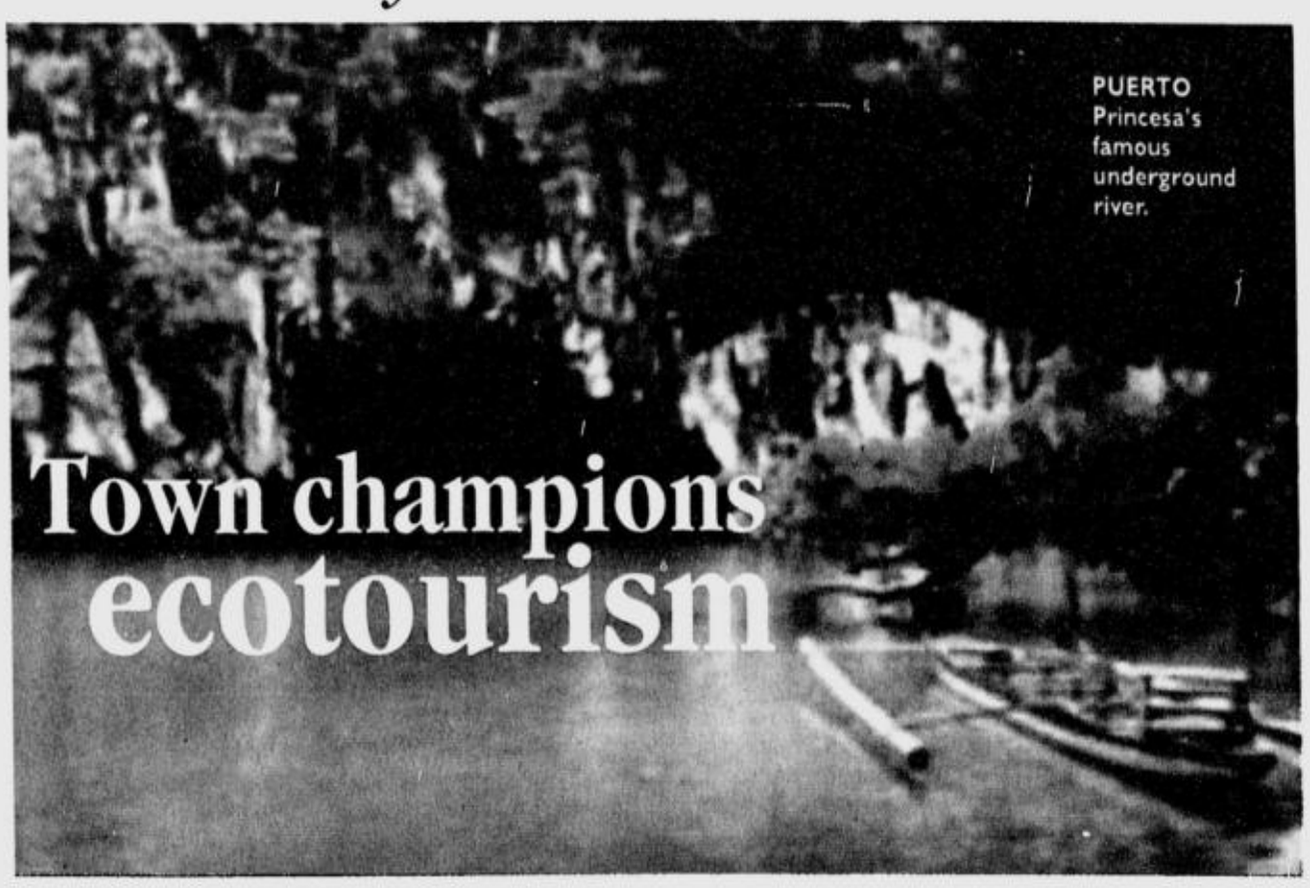
Search for new destinations

With the evolving profile of the traveler, their needs and demands are also changing. Relaxation, wellness and health are becoming highly prized components of any trip taken, giving rise to spa tourism, medical tourism and spiritual tourism. Travelers are also becoming socially more responsible, placing value on sustainable and eco-tourism.

The decline in the popularity of frequently visited destinations and growing popularity of smaller, less familiar destinations is a trend. Tourists are looking for novelty, and in search of new and different places for them to visit. This explains the increasing popularity of home-stay and cultural tourism, as tourists seek authenticity as part of their travel experience.

Tourism continues to be an integral contributor to the long-term growth of economies. The Philippines would do well to focus on the tourism industry and prepare for the huge influx of tourists. There is a need to exert more efforts in enticing travelers, to generate the much-needed boost to the economy. While its Asian neighbors are already leveraging on the rapidly growing industry, the Philippines has yet to seriously focus its attention on this vital area.

The Philippines has a lot to offer in terms of history, culture and natural attractions. The government and the private sector will have to work harder to do well in the race to attract tourists.



PUERTO Princesa's famous underground river.

Town champions ecotourism

By Christine A. Gaylican

PUERTO PRINCESA, PALAWAN—Economic development need not come at the expense of the environment. Just ask Palawaños here.

To further prove their point, the local government and business community here are looking for an investment of some P5 billion in infrastructure projects to lure back some 600,000 local and foreign tourists over the next three years.

Mayor Edward S. Hagedorn says in a recent interview that these projects will include critical road networks, a new five-star hotel and other vital infrastructure projects that will make the town a prime destination for ecotourism.

"There are infrastructure projects underway, which would help ease the travel of local residents and manage the flow of tourists," he adds.

"However, we will implement these projects alongside our goal of maintaining a sustainable environment management plan for the medium term."

Puerto Princesa is the capital town of Palawan, which is composed of 1,780 islands and islets. One of the few remaining sanctuaries of Philippine wildlife, the United Nations declared the island a world heritage site.

The infrastructure projects to protect the environment and at the same time improve the local economy will be funded either through their internal revenue allotment or commercial bank loans, Hagedorn says.

He notes that in 1992, the investments in the city only reached P50 million. It ballooned in 2001 to P4 billion due mainly to the new airport.

With the city's development, Hagedorn is confident that after three to four years, Puerto Princesa will be the main tourist destination in the country, with a projected tripling of its current 117,000 in tourist arrivals a year.

Hagedorn, however, says the municipal government of Puerto Princesa sees the need to have a proper urban development management plan for the city to help keep its environment as pristine as possible.

"Our focus is really to develop tourism as it contributes a lot to the local economy and gives employment," he shares.

Despite its having huge mineral deposits, primarily limestone, the municipal government has issued an indefinite moratorium on mining projects in Puerto Princesa.

Mayor Hagedorn says the municipal government will do everything in its power to preserve natural attractions, such as the St. Paul's subterranean river, including enforcement of strict rules covering behavior of foreign and local tourists.

Palawan, for instance, has just become the first province in the country to adopt a beach monitoring system to avoid the destruction that has ravaged other top tourist attractions.

A multi-sectoral team will start monitoring the cleanliness of all beaches in the province following the recent launching of the Beach Ecology Watch program in Barangay Sta. Lourdes in Puerto Princesa City.

Eymi Abrio, media specialist of the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff (PCSD), an environmental policy making body under the Office of the President, says the program will set standards for all business establishments, including beach resorts and restaurants in the province, based on their impact on the environment.

Environment champion

A multi-sectoral group led by the World Bank has actually recognized efforts of the municipal government in saving the environment. The city of Puerto Princesa is among the so-called "Environment Champions."

One of its environment conservation measures that got the World Bank's nod was the serious implementation of the Clean Air Act. The city managed the number and type of motorcycles plying the city, and it has prohibited smoking in public places.

Mayor Hagedorn also says the completion of a major coastal road network, co-funded by the Asian Development Bank and implemented by the Department of Public Works and Highways, also reduced the pollution emitted by the motorcycles.

The ADB-funded roads worth P1.6 billion, Hagedorn explains, links the city to the northeast towns of Langonan and Roxas to Puerto Princesa.

"The 135-kilometer road network has actually increased the value of pieces of real estate property in these towns. What used to be P5 per square meter has now moved up to P300 per square meter," he says.

He says the travel time has been cut down to an hour and a half from the usual four to five hours.

Palawan Chamber of Commerce vice president Bobby L. Castro says that if this road network will be further expanded, it will include a road from Puerto Princesa City to the El Nido resort.

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The 'business' of saving the environment

A LOT OF THINGS OF THINGS CAN be done to save the environment. At an individual level, you can start by segregating trash at home, or by recycling your empty soda can. On a larger scale, the individual act of saving the environment can be "extended" to the office where a huge sector of the society is spending their productive hours. Being a "larger" entity, businesses have great potential to take steps in saving the environment.

"Businesses can start helping the environment by looking into their own practices," said Anabelle Plantilla, executive director of the Haribon Foundation. "For example, they can conserve energy or recycle paper and whatever office supplies and equipment that can be reused. If they are into manufacturing, they can look into the processes that they employ and conform to existing environmental standards that the government has set particularly for water effluent discharges and air emissions. But for most companies that have corporate social responsibility programs, they can consider saving the environment as one of their priorities."

Haribon—with more than three decades of experience of being at the forefront of environmental issues—can help companies take up the cause of environmental protection. Depending on the need of a company, Haribon can take various roles.

"Primarily, Haribon will be an educator since we can facilitate learning sessions on biodiversity conservation which will help them appreciate the links between biodiversity and its conservation to everyday life," said Anabelle.

Haribon can also help organize activities to provide experiential learning for a company's employees on conservation. These can be in the form of bird-watching activities, snorkeling, diving or tree planting activities.

"We can also be a catalyst by linking a company directly to Haribon partner communities which are currently implementing conservation actions that could use support," added Anabelle.

With all the roles that Haribon can assume in a company, the primary benefit to the employees is the knowledge they can gain with regard to saving the environment.

"Haribon needs individuals to create a constituency for biodiversity conservation. In the long run, this constituency can be very potent because it can influence opinion and policy to favor the environment," she said. "At the same time, when a company takes on the cause of the environment, it becomes a venue to nurture an environmentally responsible work force and citizenry."

Employees can participate in activities which promote environmental protection or conservation. They can also become members of Haribon so they can be directly informed of current initiatives and have opportunities to volunteer in some activities and events.

As an accredited NGO by the Philippine Commission for NGO Certification, Haribon can provide certificates of donation to companies for tax purposes.

The existing programs of Haribon that can be supported by companies range from information, education and communications activities and projects, advocacy (illegal wildlife trade; no mining and logging campaign in natural forests), forest restoration (promotion and implementation of rainforestation or the planting of indigenous tree species with priority in degraded forests and watersheds), scientific research (particularly for endangered species like the Philippine Eagle and the Tamaraw); site conservation action and more.

"Most businesses rely on natural resources and protecting these resources makes good business sense," said Anabelle.

"In a way, this ensures that business can thrive as long as they do not destroy their sources of raw material."

Haribon needs all the assistance it can get. To explain how you and your company can help, call Christine Cenal, resource development unit head or Anya Santos, membership senior officer for individual memberships at 433-3476 or 436-4363. Visit www.haribon.org.ph for more details.

How to become a licensed real estate broker

IN RESPONSE TO QUERIES REGARDING the licensure examination for real estate brokers, Urban Institute of Real Estate said the exam is conducted by the Department of Trade and Industry every last Sunday of May and November, at all key cities of the country.

The two major requirements for licensure is the educational attainment of at least 144 college units if applicant is not a college graduate and the other one is passing the exam.

The Urban Institute set three sections of the comprehensive real estate seminar and review for the exam.

Call 681-0928 or text at 0916-426-9174 or email urbanet@pacific.net.ph for inquiries.

Validity of waivers

By Mark Anthony P. Tamayo
and Dante R. Bravo
SGV & Co.

TAX-FILES

MOST TAXPAYERS UNDERGOING A BIR EXamination execute a waiver—usually at the request of the BIR examiners—to stop the running of the 3-year statute of limitations or prescriptive period for making the assessment, thereby effectively giving the BIR examiners more time within which to finish the examination. Generally, a taxpayer may be assessed by the BIR within a period of three years reckoned from the last day prescribed by law for filing the tax return. In cases of false or fraudulent return or failure to file a return, the prescriptive period is ten years from the discovery of such falsity, fraud or omission.

The purpose of the prescriptive period to assess is to safeguard the interest of the taxpayer against unreasonable investigation. As clearly explained by the Supreme Court in Republic of the Phils. vs. Ablaza (108 Phil 1105), the law prescribing a limitation of actions for the collection of the income tax is beneficial both to the Government and to its citizens: to the Government because tax officers would be obliged to act promptly in the making of assessment, and to citizens because after the lapse of the prescription period, citizens would have a feeling of security against tax agents who will always find an excuse to inspect the books of taxpayers, not to determine the latter's real liability, but to take advantage of every opportunity to possibly molest peaceful, law-abiding citizens. Without such a legal defense, taxpayers would be under obligation to always keep their books and keep them available and open for inspection.

In many cases, however, the tax examination is not completed within the 3-year prescriptive period, necessitating an agreement between the BIR and the taxpayer to extend. This agreement is the Waiver of the Statute of Limitations which is authorized under Section 222(b) of the Tax Code.

Under Revenue Memorandum Order (RMO) No. 20-90, as amended by Revenue Delegation Authority Order (RDAO) No. 05-01, the execution of such waiver should comply with the following:

1. The waiver must be in the form prescribed by the RMO. (There should be no deviation from such form.);

2. The phrase "but not after _____ 19___" stated in the prescribed form should be filled up. (This indicates the expiry date of the period agreed upon to assess/collect the tax after the regular three-year period of prescription. The period agreed upon shall constitute the time within which to effect the assessment/collection of the tax in addition to the ordinary prescriptive period.);

3. The waiver should be signed by the taxpayer himself or his duly authorized representative. In case the authority is delegated by the taxpayer to a representative, the concerned revenue official shall see to it that such delegation is in writing and duly notarized. In the case of a corporation, the waiver must be signed by any of its responsible officials.

4. The waiver should be duly notarized before the same is accepted by the revenue official concerned.

5. The Commissioner of Internal Revenue or the revenue official authorized by him shall sign the waiver indicating that the BIR has accepted and agreed to the waiver.

6. The date of such acceptance by the BIR should be indicated. Both the date of execution by the taxpayer and date of acceptance by the BIR should be before the expiration of the period of prescription or before the lapse of the period agreed upon in case a subsequent agreement is executed.

7. The waiver must be executed in three (3) copies, the original copy to be attached to the docket of the case, the second copy for the taxpayer and the third copy for the office accepting the waiver.

8. The fact of receipt by the taxpayer of his/her file copy shall be indicated in the original copy.

Under RMO 20-90, any revenue official who is found to not have complied with the foregoing requirements, which in turn results in the prescription of the BIR's right to assess/collect, shall be dealt with administratively. What this means is the responsibility for determining whether or not the waiver has been properly executed rests with the revenue official concerned. If the waiver is not properly executed, the same may result in the prescription of the right of the BIR to assess/collect against the taxpayer. That is why the said revenue official concerned may be held administratively liable for the same.

In Philippine Journalists, Inc. vs. Commissioner of Internal Revenue (G.R. No. 162852 dated December 16, 2004), the Supreme Court invalidated the waiver, and consequently, the assessment and collection letters sent by the BIR to the taxpayer, on the ground that the waiver did not comply strictly with the requirements provided under RMO 20-90. In this case, the Court found defects in the waiver that include:

1. It did not specify a definite agreed date between the BIR and the taxpayer within which the BIR may assess and collect revenue taxes. Thus, the taxpayer's waiver became unlimited in time, violating Section 222(b) of the Tax Code.

2. It was not signed by the Commissioner but only by a Revenue District Officer.

3. It did not indicate the date of acceptance by the BIR. Hence, it is difficult to fix with cer-

VALIDITY/ B2-4

Showcasing the country's best products

THE PHILIPPINE pavilion in Aichi made from coconut byproducts. ALEX VERGARA

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

THE RECENTLY-CONCLUDED World Expo in Aichi, Japan gave participating countries a unique opportunity to show their best to the rest of the world, and sell some products, too.

Thus the Philippines, whose pavilion was judged the best designed among the one module units, took great care in choosing the products to be brought to Japan to ensure warm market reception among the deep-pocketed and discriminating Japanese.

Among the most saleable were the necklaces and other fashion items done by hand by the T'boli tribe in Mindanao distributed in Manila by Modern Indigenous.

The Philippine pavilion also quickly ran out of the men's golf hats from Lucban Hats and ladies bags from Talimaya Gift-Fashion Accessories Corp. and Prime Legacy Inc. made of abaca with some accent pieces made of coconut shells.

Handkerchiefs from Tesoro's Marketing Corp. made of jusi and pina fiber and shawls made of pina from La Herminia Pina Weaving also developed a following among the mostly Japanese visitors of the expo.

Even the expensive champagne colored pearls from Jewelmer International Corp. and high-end fashion accessories from The Rocks and Massino Accessories, found new homes as Japanese were amazed at the quality and design of the pieces of South Sea jewelry.

Rosvi Gaetos, head of the Philippine Conventions and Visitors Corp., tells BusinessFriday that the products were chosen based on their potential for export to Japan.

Gaetos says some of the products are already exported to Japan as identified by the Center for International Exhibitions and Missions, while others were showcased to test the waters.

New products shown visitors included virgin coconut oil and massage oils from San Benito-The Farm and organic tea.

Other food items snapped up by the buyers include banana chips, tropical fruit juices from Suncatch of San Miguel Corp., dried mango from Cebu and coconut juice from Gema Coco Foods Corp.

Eloisa Romero of PCVC says the pavilion sold about P100,000 worth of products a day toward the end of the expo in September, and the pavilion even ran out of stock of the bags and some of the fashion accessories.

But the hands-down winners among the Philippine products for sale were the fresh food prepared by Via Mare restaurant.

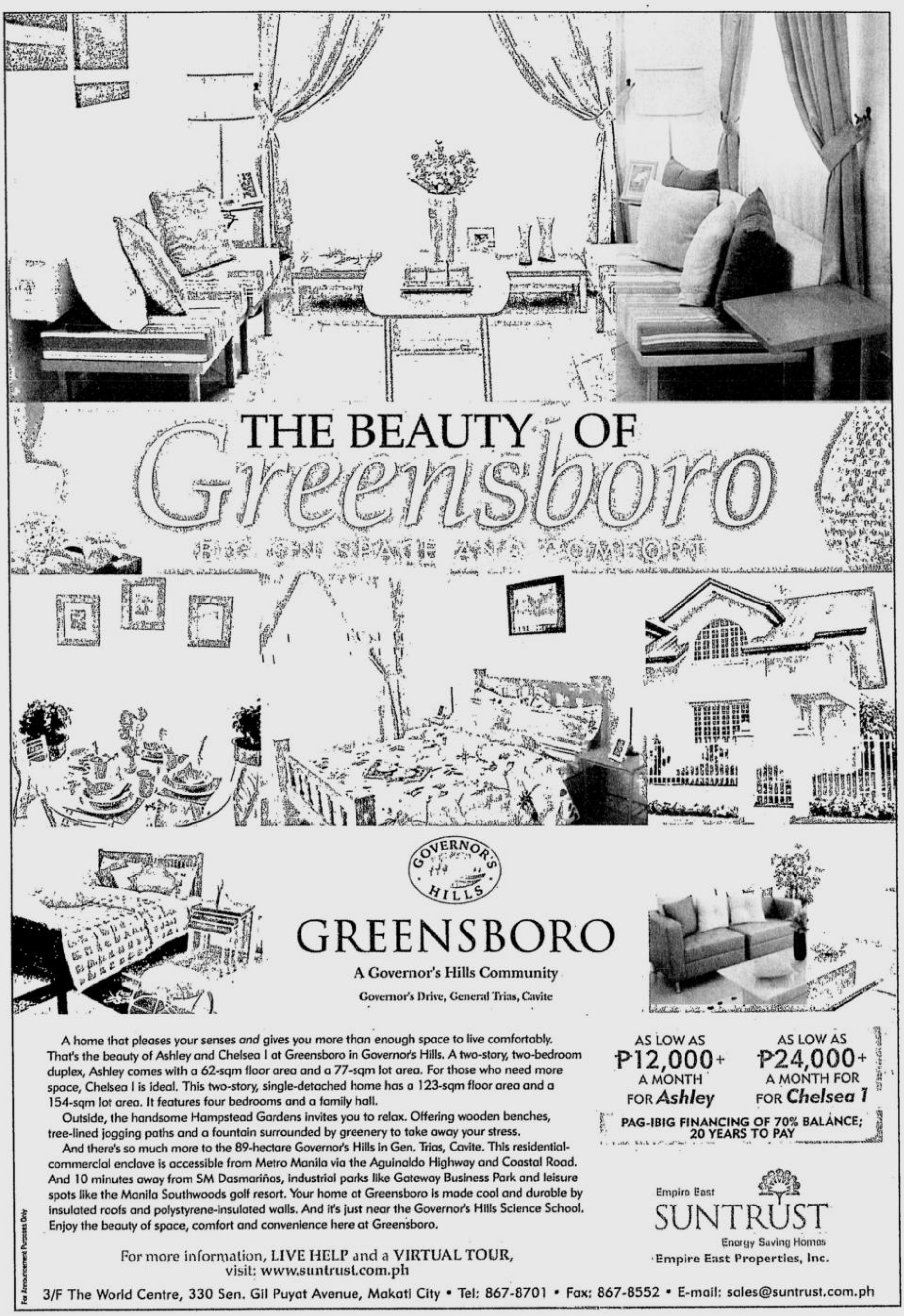
Via Mare's Glenda Barretto says that Japanese visitors would patiently line up for a taste of Via Mare's halo-halo, *Lumpiang Binondo (lumpiang shanghai)* and fresh calamansi juice.

Barretto says the Latik restaurant at the Philippine pavilion was even judged among the best culinary experiences at the expo by NHK because Via Mare got a feel for Japanese food preferences.

"I asked about what the Japanese like and I learned that they normally do not like food that are too flavorful," Barretto says, "So we adjusted the taste of some of our products. Our halo-halo, for instance, is not as sweet as what Filipinos would have liked."

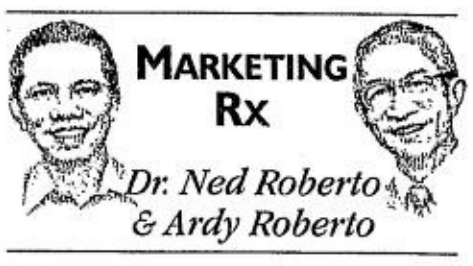
But considered the feather in the World Expo committee's cap is the attractive offer by one Japanese golf and country club to buy all the materials used in putting up the pavilion—coco fiber from Silk Cocoon, coconut lumber and the coco chips—because it plans to put up a Philippines-inspired room in the club.

Japan has truly developed a taste for everything Filipino.



BUSINESS Friday

Competing against the 'big players'



Q: How can I get my target market to choose my low-cost housing projects over the big players'?

A: For your diagnosis, focus on the two critical items in your question: (1) your target market segment, and (2) the target competitor: "the big players."

One possibility of your difficulty is this: it's a case of the wrong target market segment. You did not give any specifics about who your target market segment is. If that's the same segment as the market that the "big players" are after, then it's most likely a case of the wrong target market segment. Of course this is assuming that the "big players" are not yet after the low-cost-home-buying customers. But even if they are, there are two or three types of low-cost homes and you might want to see what type the "big players" are offering the market compared to yours.

The other possibility is related to the preceding: a case of the wrong target competitor. Of course, you didn't tell us what level of a player you are: small, medium or big. By your question, it looks to us that you are most probably not a "big player." So are you a "small" or a "medium" player? If you're a "small player," then you're after the wrong target competitor.

Who is the correct target competitor for you as a small player? That should be customer-defined and not marketer-defined. Ask your customers and prospects: "If you will not want to consider my housing project, what will you then consider instead?" The most frequently mentioned alternative is your correct target competitor.

But suppose one or two of the "big players" are in fact after the low-cost housing market in your housing project site and nearby sites. Then what's the solution to your marketing problem?

This is now a case of how to shift and influence customer preference in favor of your housing project. The concept of product positioning says that preference is a matter of distinctively creating and delivering on customer's priority values. If your housing project offers prospects better "housing values" versus competitors including "big player" competitors, then you can "get (your) target market to choose (your) low-cost housing projects over the big players'."

So find out first your target customers' priority low-cost home values in addition to but including price. You'll see that they have a lot of priority values like convenience of the location, neighborhood and likely neighbors, amenities and facilities, quality of the housing construction, initial payment and installment terms including interest rate and service charges, electricity and water, access to transportation, and many others.

Then, get yourself rated on these values versus your "big player" competitors. This is not you or your staff who will do the rating. It's your prospective customers. They have the final say on these things.

Where your prospects rate your projects low is where you will have to make corrections or improvement if you can. Where you are rated higher is where to highlight and reinforce your project in your presentation to prospects. Similarly with where you are rated parity with a "big player" competitor: highlight this. After all, that's a customer's unexpected, namely, that you can be at par with a "big player."

Can CRM cause shifts?

Q: Suppose you are up against a strong brand that is preferred by consumers like in the case of Toyota or Honda for cars, or say, Toshiba, HP or IBM for laptops. Next, suppose your product is comparable in performance or even better versus the strong brand. Can CRM (customer relationship marketing) help you convert non-users and get customers using the products of your competitors to shift to your product?

A: To diagnose properly, let us break up your question into its several parts: Can you "convert non-users" to use your product? Can you get "customers using the products of your competitors to shift to your product?" Can you convert non-users and shift users of competitor products when "your product is comparable in performance or even better versus the strong (competitor) brand?" Is CRM the appropriate method for getting these consumer conversions and shifting behaviors?

First, on non-users. Non-users have many good reasons for not using a product. One is that they have not yet found among the available brands, the product that offers what they have been looking for. In this case, find out what is missing in the available brands and once you find it, fill it and then conversion into "usership" of your product will follow.

Non-usage can also be because of pricing. Typically, non-users want a low price but with minimum quality. In other words, they belong to the low-price or economy segment. If this is the reason for non-usage, then assess your capability for accessing this segment in terms of your policy about low-margin but volume marketing. If you have such marketing capability, then you can successfully gain converts from this market segment.

Or it could be for some other reasons. Find out from doing market research.

Next, what about getting "customers using the products of your competitors to shift to your product?" For this one, ask yourself: "What compelling reason can your product provide your competitors' customers for them to shift to your product and stay?" We added the idea of "and staying ..." because that's really what you're after and not just a short-term shift. How can you find out what that compelling reason might be?

Find out by going to those customers of your competitors. Ask our classic opportunity-search question: "Was there any time when you felt disappointed, annoyed or irritated with product XYZ (the competitor's product)? If so, what specifically disappointed, annoyed or irritated you?"

The most mentioned point of disappointment, annoyance or irritation, or the disappointment; annoyance or irritation that is said with deeply felt intensity will most likely count as that compelling reason you're looking for. Test this and if it is, then position your product on it but make sure your product will deliver.

Now on the issue of your product being "comparable in performance or even better versus the strong (competitor) brand." This evaluation must be by your customers or the customers of your competitor. But if it is your judgment or that of your product development people, then go no further. That's the wrong people to make the evaluation. So get first the customers' judgment.

If customers through actual product testing say that your product is comparable in performance versus the strong competitor brand, then your product is a parity product. You'll have a hard time converting non-users and an even harder time getting competitors' users to shift to your product. Explore other superiority areas in the other Ps of your marketing mix: superior pricing, superior advertising, superior sales promotion, or superior sales and distribution. Remember, it's not only through product superiority that you can be a market leader. There are many parity brands around that became market leaders and sustained this leadership through support P (e.g., pricing, placement, promo) superiority. Just take a look at Unilab. Practically all of its products are parity products and yet many of them are market leaders. They succeeded in gaining that competitive status by attaining price superiority (low affordable price) combined with sales/distribution superiority.

Finally, on CRM. As we're sure you know, CRM represents just one of several marketing strategies for gaining market share: converting non-users and shifting competitors' customers in favor of your product. Just like any marketing strategy, there's a right time and condition for using CRM. Talk to a CRM expert or experts as well as experts of alternatives to CRM. The good CRM-ers will be honest with you about the right time and occasion. Call and talk to Dickie Soriano (BCD Pinpoint and OgilvyOne), Angeli Lambsdorf (Indio) or Ichay Bulaong (ARC), for example.

MRx recommends: Blink - The Power of Thinking Without Thinking by Malcolm Gladwell. Chapter 5 discusses market research and thin slicing. Check out Blink-The Seminar on October 26, 27. The Senior MRx-er will facilitate. Feedback at MarketingRx@pldtDSL.net or text us at 0919-314-5412. God bless!

Validity of waivers

From page B2-3

tainty whether the waiver was actually agreed before the expiration of the 3-year prescriptive period.

4. The taxpayer was not given a copy of the waiver. Under RMO 20-90, the waiver must be executed in 3 copies, with the second copy being for the taxpayer. When the taxpayer's comptroller signed the waiver, it was not yet complete and final because the BIR had not yet assented. There is compliance with the provisions of RMO 20-90 only after the taxpayer received a copy of the waiver accepted by the BIR.

Since the waiver in this case was incomplete and defective, the running of the 3-year prescriptive period did not stop, and was therefore not extended. Consequently, the assessment notice was issued by the BIR beyond the 3-year prescriptive period, and was therefore invalid. In the same manner, the Warrant of Distraint issued by the BIR is also null and void for having been issued pursuant to an invalid assessment.

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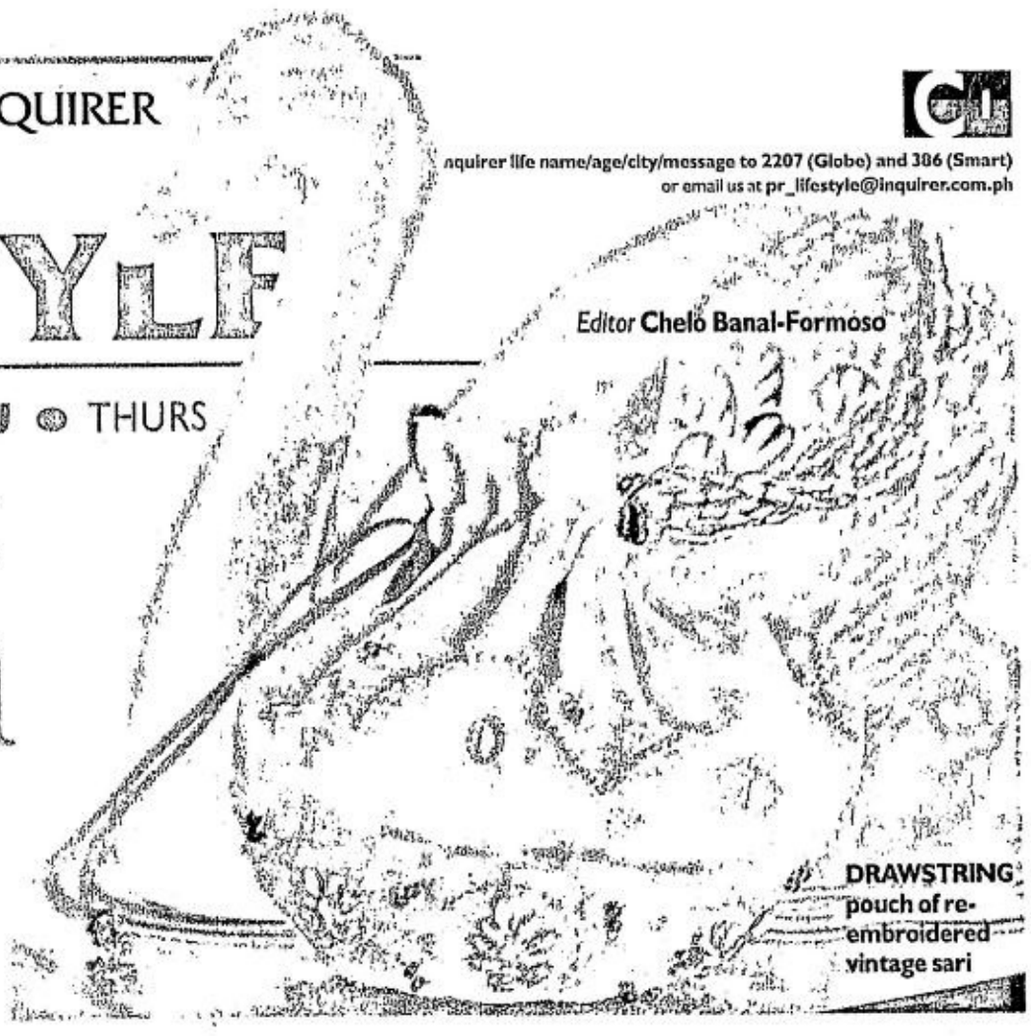
Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso

In and out of Sison

After three years, Michele Sison is back in designing



DRAWSTRING pouch of re-embroidered vintage sari

Text by Cheche V. Moral
Photos by Chito Vecina

MICHELE SISON IS anxious. Her absence may have lasted only three years, but in an industry where new names emerge each day eager to get a piece of the action, visibility is crucial.

Her unease, however, doesn't stem from the prospect of competition. The petite Sison, after all, was one of the busiest fashion designers in the '90s. She might have been away for sometime, but she hasn't been really forgotten. That there are more talents who want to get into the rag trade is healthy, she said.

But, of course, no matter past glories, Sison has to regain her footing by making small, tentative steps back into the fashion world.

If there's some trepidation, Sison isn't showing it. She laughed and rolled her eyes when asked about her "hiatus," her "hibernation." She found the words amusing.

There's a sense of quietude about her, perhaps an indication that she had finally made peace with the tragic loss of her husband.

Her admission of a slight case of nerves at facing the press for the first time after several years seemed uncharacteristic if one were to recall Sison's once high-profile, party-girl persona. She has deliberately avoided social functions, she said. She hasn't even gone out to watch fashion shows, which she sorely misses. "I don't miss the *chismis* (gossip)!" she said, laughing.

Bag designs

But her eyes lit up when she talked about her 40-piece bag collection that will be shown on Oct. 26 at the Peninsula Manila's Conservatory. Sison will headline the launch of Metrobank's Femme Visa card, a credit card that's said to be tailor-made for the needs of career women such as fashion and beauty perks. Thus, the partnership with Sison.

"I'm back! I'm productive!" she said. Sison isn't only designing bags, she's also began making clothes again. She has partnered with Joel Ong of the defunct Milkwear to create Michele Sison for Kleid, a made-to-order line. She hopes to renew her membership with the Fashion Design Council of the Philippines.

"I'm more focused now," Sison said. "I'm learning how to say no... I'm not a very good salesperson. Before, if you say to me that you like something, I'll just give it to you. My sister used to [scold me]."

To heal her broken soul, Sison left the country on occasions. She also holed up in Tagaytay, expending her energy on building her weekend home. The new house became her creative outlet, her therapy.

"Doing the interiors, just picking the colors, it felt so good. It was very therapeutic," she said. Some of her purse designs were, in fact, inspired by "the shapes of kites I see in Tagaytay." She has also opened a restaurant with her siblings.

Not dating

No, she's not dating yet. "But I'm happy. I'm

IN/ C2

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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2250 Series of 2005

EMBROIDERED and plumed evening bag with the bird that inspired the design

RE-EMBROIDERED purse of vintage sari with gold strap

SEQUINED purse with bead fringes

KITE-INSPIRED purse

In and out of Sison

From page C1

busy... I'm more sensitized now. More mature. Of course, before it was always parties... [I'm] not old, but mature," said Sison, looking younger and more vulnerable than a typical woman of 37.

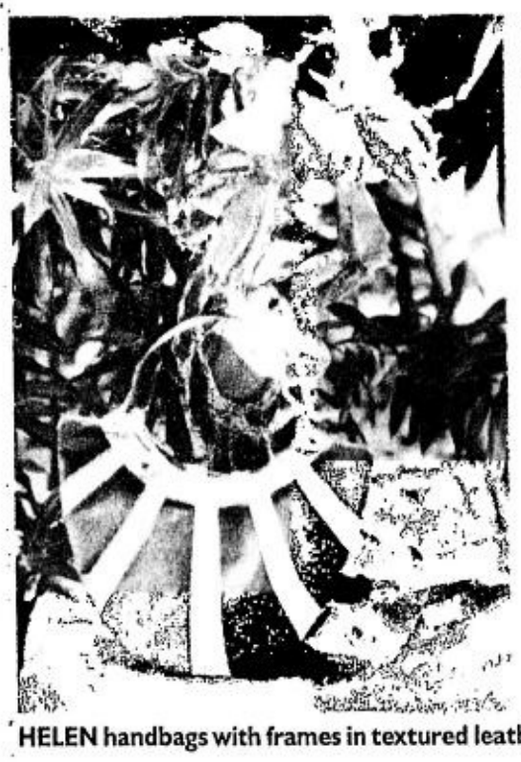
"There's so much I want to express... I think you will see [how I'm feeling now with] the burst of colors in my bags. They're vibrant and opulent. They're no longer the drab neutrals... There's so much I want to do! I can't imagine myself leaving this business for good."

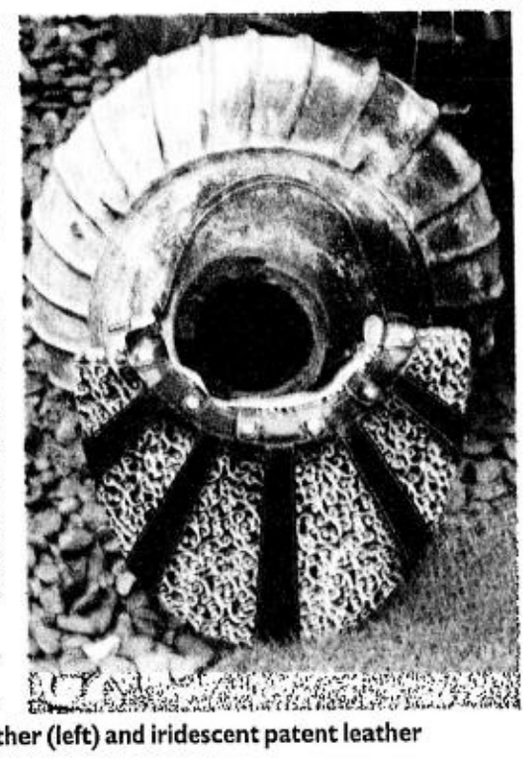
Before the Metrobank offer came in, Sison had been scouting for a space to set up shop in time for the Christmas holidays. She had planned to call it Coquetta "because I'm a flirt!" Not finding a suitable space, however, she plans to consign her bags to some boutiques for the moment, or may be ordered directly from her (tel. 0917-3286363).

Some of her purses are made from delicate vintage saris, re-embroidered or beaded with crystals. She used Swarovski crystals very sparingly this time, unlike in the past where her purses would be dripping with them. "And the sizes are bigger. Before my purses were really small," she explained, gesturing with her palm. Some styles are sequined; another, inspired by a house pet, is embroidered with a bird pattern and accented with bright fuchsia feathers.

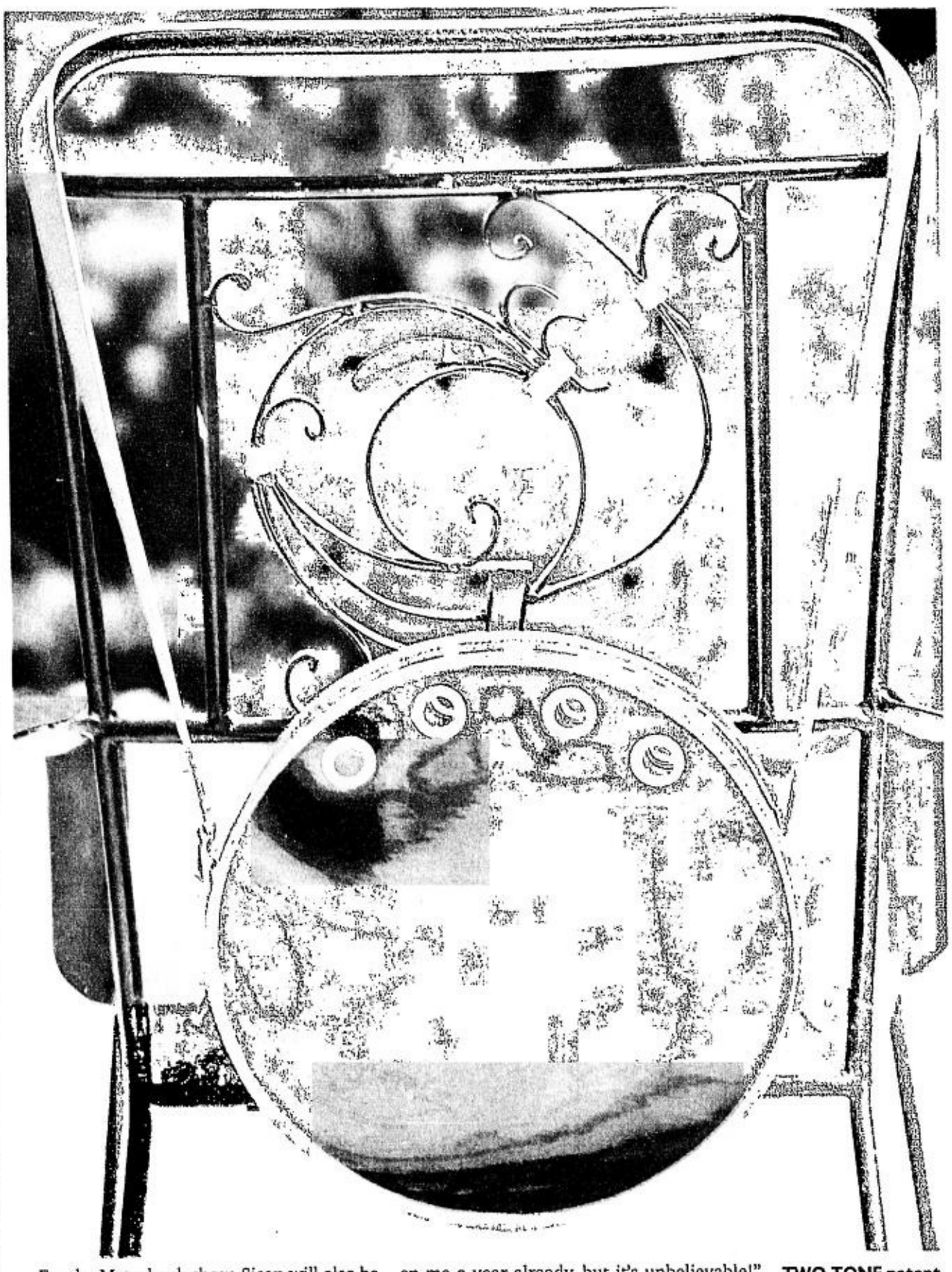
"I liked to play with mixed media," she said. "I saw the colors of the card logo and I took it from there. I won't be making exact replicas [for future orders]; there will be slight variations."

Sison also used iridescent patent leather in a round, Twiggy-inspired sling bag that one observed was reminiscent of Milkwear in its heydays; and for the frame of a semi-spade-shaped bag with interchangeable pouches called Helen. "Oh, I just felt it looks like a Helen!" she explained, laughing. The bags are priced from P5,000-up.





HELEN handbags with frames in textured leather (left) and iridescent patent leather



TWO-TONE patent-leather '60s sling bag

For the Metrobank show, Sison will also be showing some of her belt designs.

At the moment, she's busy making the gowns for her sister's upcoming Moroccan-inspired wedding. "I'm using Mindanao silk for the first time, and it's just so beautiful! It's taken me a year already, but it's unbelievable!" She went on, animated, to tell of how paillettes were woven into the silk, the wider loom created to her specifications.

Her passion is bubbling. Michele Sison is back.

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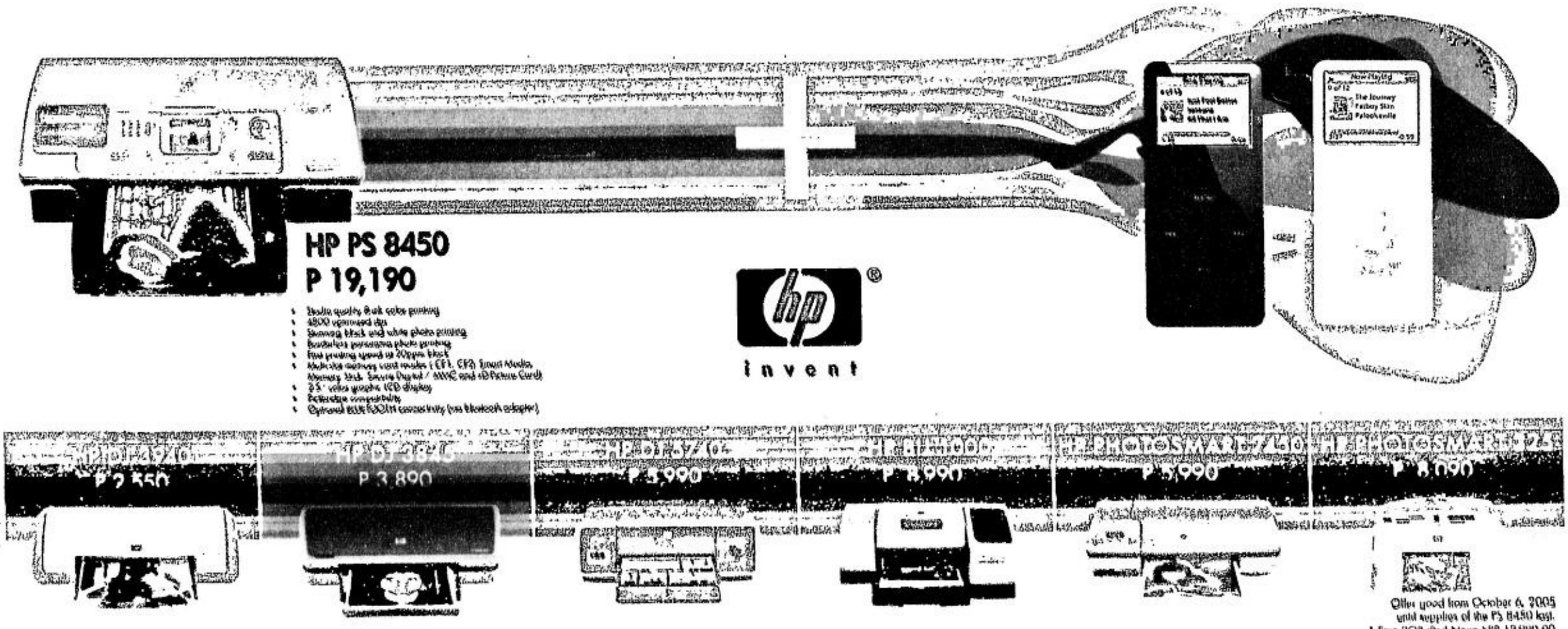


Fashion design tilt's grand finals Oct. 20

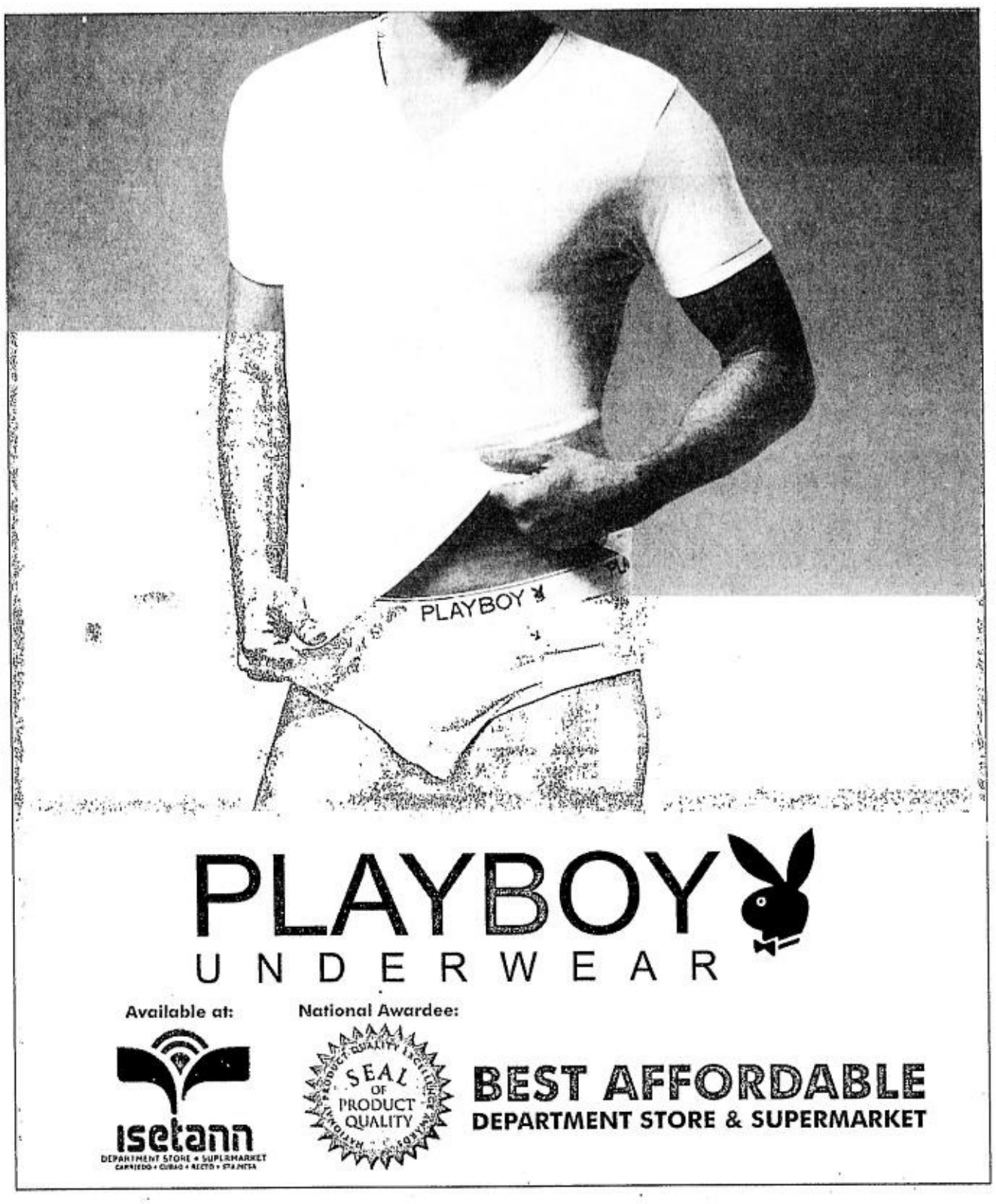
THE FASHION AND DESIGN COUNCIL of the Philippines (FDCP), Saga Events and Ayala Center will present the Grand Finals Night of the Philippine Fashion Design Competition (PFDC) 2005 on Oct. 20, 7 p.m., at the Glorietta Activity Center, Ayala Center, Makati City.

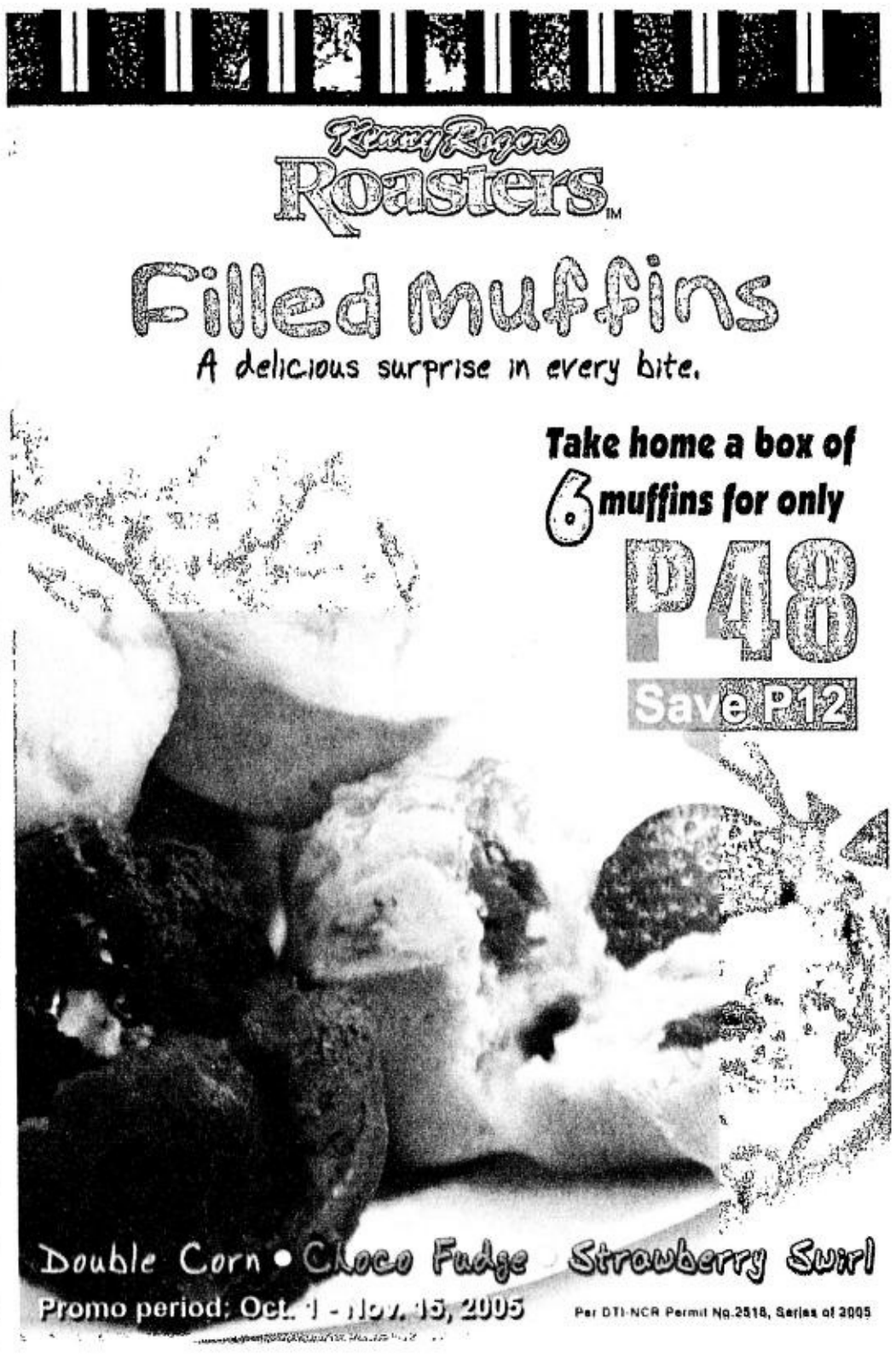
The competition will choose Philippine representatives to the Apparel and Accessories Divisions of the Concours International des Jeunes Créateurs de Mode (International Competition of Young Fashion Designers) in Paris, France, on Dec. 15.

Theme of the Paris contest is "Art, Fashion and Industry." Philippine entries will feature the traditional separates *baro't saya* and the classic Filipino art of Letras y Figuras.

PFDC 2005's screening committee has chosen 23 semi-finalists for apparel while the FDCP and Cebu Fame Foundation selected 14 semi-finalists for accessories.

PFDC grand prize winners for each division will receive a free round-trip ticket to Paris for the international competition.





HEALTHY HABITS BUILD BETTER STUDY HABITS

We all know how important it is for children to have proper study habits. After all, their success in school - and in life, later on - will partly depend on how well they manage their study time. Children with good study skills are also more likely to increase their confidence and feelings of competence as they continuously learn new things. They tend to approach their school-work with a positive attitude, rather than a negative, anxious one.

Some factors in developing and maintaning good study habits are universal for all children–sufficient sleep, plenty of excercise, and a proper diet.

SLEEP TIGHT

Losing even an hour's sleep every night can have noticeable effects on a child's mental performance. In a recent study, children who got less sleep performed poorly at tests of mental sharpness, reaction times and memory. They also tended to be more irritable and displayed shorter attention spans. Researchers emphasized the importance of keeping the bedroom a place of rest and tranquility, by keeping out items that keep a child awake, such as computers and televisions.

A HEALTHY MIND IN A HEALTHY BODY

An hour of playing basketball may not sound like an ideal method of promoting good study habits, but research shows that physical exercise boosts brain function, improves mood, and increases learning capacity. Physical exercise benefits the brain by improving blood flow and spurring cell growth.

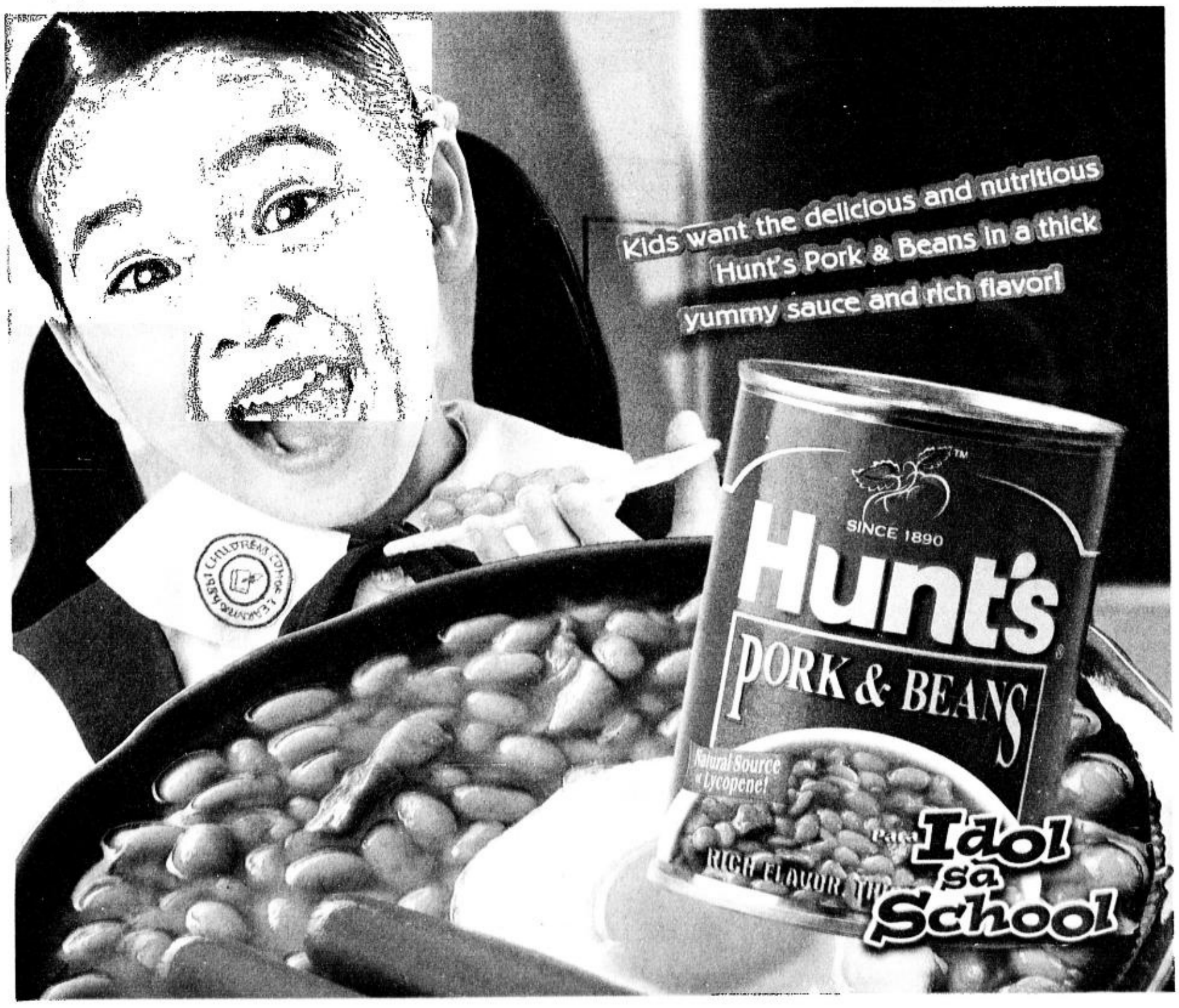
EATING RIGHT

Diet plays a key role in a child's brain development - and thus in study habits as well. Essential to brain growth are fats, proteins and carbohydrates, as well as micronutrients. While the word "fat" has negative associations these days, growing children need an ample supply of this nutrient (yes, fat IS a nutrient!). Healthy sources of fat include raw or dry roasted nuts, avocados, fresh coconut, and extra virgin olive oil.

Proteins are another important brain food, found in meat, fish, eggs, meat and legumes (especially beans). In the body, proteins turn into essential amino acids that are critical in cell growth.

Carbohydrates are very important in maintaining adequate levels of the brain fuel glucose, so it's important for children to have a steady supply. Because carbohydrates are processed quickly by the body, poor concentration and low energy levels can result from long gaps between meals. So it's actually a GOOD idea to provide your child with (healthy) snacks just before or during study time to keep their brains sharp. Another way to prevent these sudden changes in energy levels is to combine carbohydrates with protein foods - eggs with toast, burgers with potatoes or pork and beans.

HUNT'S PORK AND BEANS is an excellent source of the essential nutrients needed by growing minds - Magnesium, Iron, Protein, Lycopene, Flavonoids and Carbohydrates. Easy to prepare and delicious straight from the can, Hunt's Pork and Beans is a yummy companion to your child's favorite foods, likehotdogs, eggs or ham. And Hunt's Pork and Beans help provide additional nourishment for extra brainpower – and better study habits!



Clothes, bikes in one show

FASHION VELOCITY, A PROJECT of a class of the International Academy of Management and Economics (IAME), will be held at the Rockwell Tent, Powerplant Mall, Rockwell Center, Makati City, Oct. 22, 8 p.m.

Cocktails will precede the show at 7 p.m.

The fashion show and bike display is being presented by students of Project and Operations Management (POM), Finance and Marketing class of the Manila extension of Warnborough University of England.

MODEL-ACTRESS Melanie Marquez (fourth from left) with her fellow students, CEO Dr. Noli Santos and deputy dean JB Cuaresma

EDDIE Baddeo's deconstucted bolero jacket over straw-yellow serpentine gown, in draping chiffon bodice and layers of circular bias ostrich-feathered skirt accented with fuchsia cabbage rose, for beauty queen-supermodel Melanie Marquez' finale number

Harley Davidson motorcycles to be featured are courtesy of actor and former Parañaque Mayor Joey Marquez, co-sponsor of the affair.

The show was developed to comply with the academic requirements for the BS in Management and Economics (IAME, pronounced "eye-aim") degree.

Supporting the project are professor Michael Dembinsky, deputy dean JB Cuaresma and Dr. Noli Santos, IAME chair-CEO.

Featured high fashion designers are Eddie Baddeo, Barge Ramos, Toni Galang, JunJun Cambe, Joji Aguilar, Frederick Peralta and Renee Salud. Models include former Miss International Melanie Marquez, a member of the finance class staging the event. Director is Ogee Ats.

Proceeds of the event will help support medical missions of the Mabuhay Deseret Foundation and community projects of IAME.

Mabuhay Deseret Foundation is the largest surgical charity group in the Philippines. It performs free operations indigent patients with cataracts, cross-eyes, cleft lip/palates and clubfoot.

Other sponsors are M.A.Q. Lights and Grip, Island Gas, Renew Placenta, Ellen's, Joel Mendez, Sinai Travel and Convention, and Foyer and Bookshop Café.

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STRIPED taffeta abaca in fuchsia frames the face of model Genya.

Silky tapestry

Story on page D2

Did you know that women die of breast cancer every 13 minutes?

Keep abreast.

Ignorance kills. A woman can lose more than her breast to breast cancer. Be informed. Be aware. Keep abreast with the right information and some useful tips on how you can prevent breast cancer.

Know fact from fiction

Fiction	Fact
All breast lumps are cancerous	In general, 80% of lumps are caused by benign (non-cancerous) changes in the breast. This percentage tends to fluctuate with age. For young women, more than 80% of breast lumps are benign. As a woman ages, her risk of developing breast cancer increases.
Breast cancer is mainly a genetic disease	Only a small percentage (5%-10%) of breast cancer cases are thought to be due to abnormal genes. A mutated breast cancer gene is only one of the risk factors for developing breast cancer. 80% of women who get breast cancer have no clear risk factors.
Small breasted women cannot get breast cancer	The amount of breast tissue a woman has does not affect her risk of developing breast cancer. Breast size is certainly not a significant risk factor for breast cancer.
Underwire bras cause breast cancer	A book published a few years ago called Dressed to Kill suggested that underwire bras can constrict the body's lymph node system, causing breast cancer. This link between underwire bras and breast cancer is completely inaccurate. The authors did not take into account other genetic, environmental or social factors that contribute to breast cancer.

Know how to Perform Breast Self-Examination

The best time to examine your breasts is two or three days after your period, when your breasts are least likely to be tender or swollen. If you do not have periods, pick a day, such as the first day each month, to remind yourself that you need to perform a BSE.

In the Shower

Raise your left arm. Use your right hand to examine your left breast. With fingers flat, touch every part of the breast, gently feeling for lumps or a thickening. Press firmly, starting at the outermost top edge of your breast and spiraling in toward the nipple. Examine every part of the breast. Repeat the exam using your left hand to examine your right breast.

Lying Down

Place a pillow or towel under your left shoulder and put your left hand behind your head. With fingers flat, press firmly on your left breast with your right hand. Start at the outermost top edge of your breast and spiral in toward the nipple. Examine every part of the breast. Repeat the exam using your left hand to examine your right breast.

Looking into a Mirror

Place your hands at your sides. Look carefully for changes in the size, shape and contour of each breast. Look for puckering, dimpling or changes in skin texture. Also, gently squeeze both nipples and look for discharge. Repeat the exam with your hands on your hips, then above your head.

Sitting Down

With your arm resting on a firm surface in front of you, use the same circular motion to examine your armpits. This area is also breast tissue.

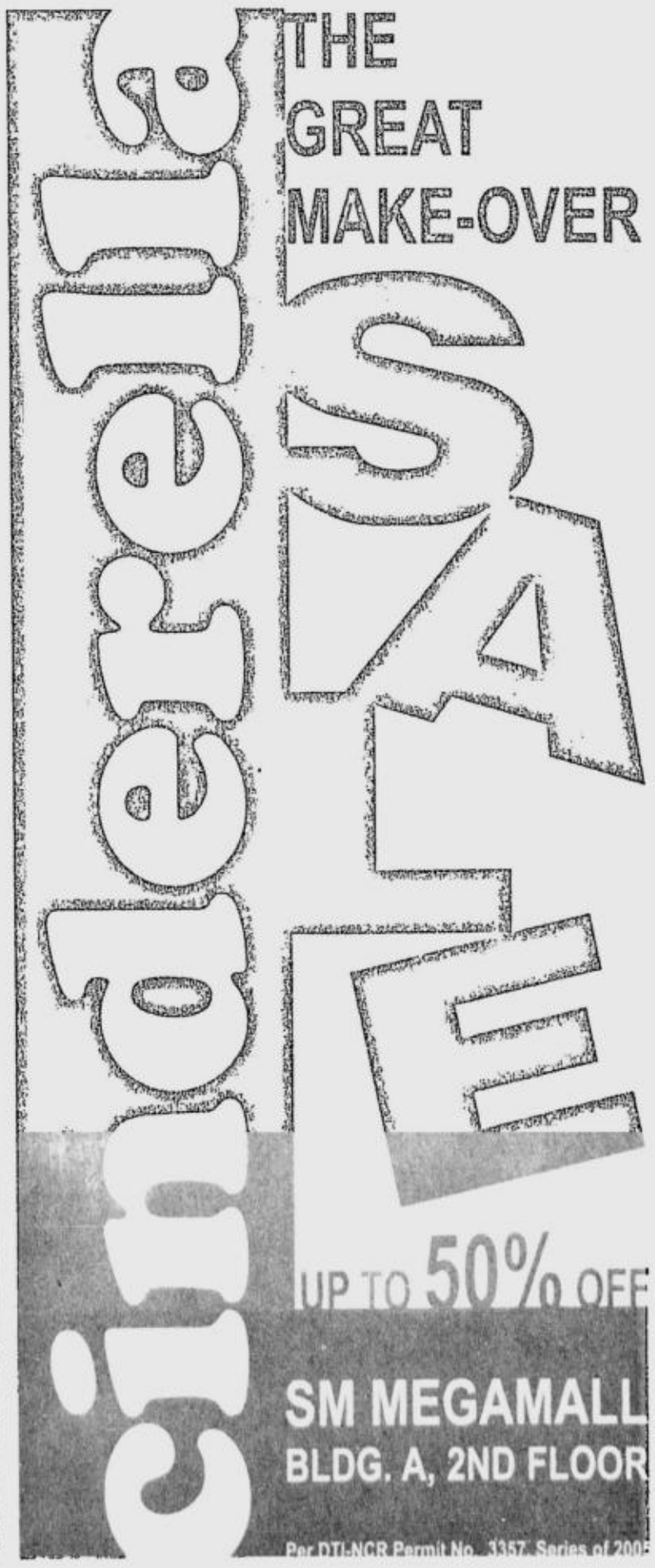
If you notice anything unusual, see your doctor. Keep in mind that most breast lumps or other changes do not indicate cancer, especially in premenopausal women.

Or better yet, arm yourself with proper information from Doctors and health experts who can give you valuable facts about breast cancer and advice on the importance of early detection in prevention. Keeping abreast could very well save your breasts and your life.

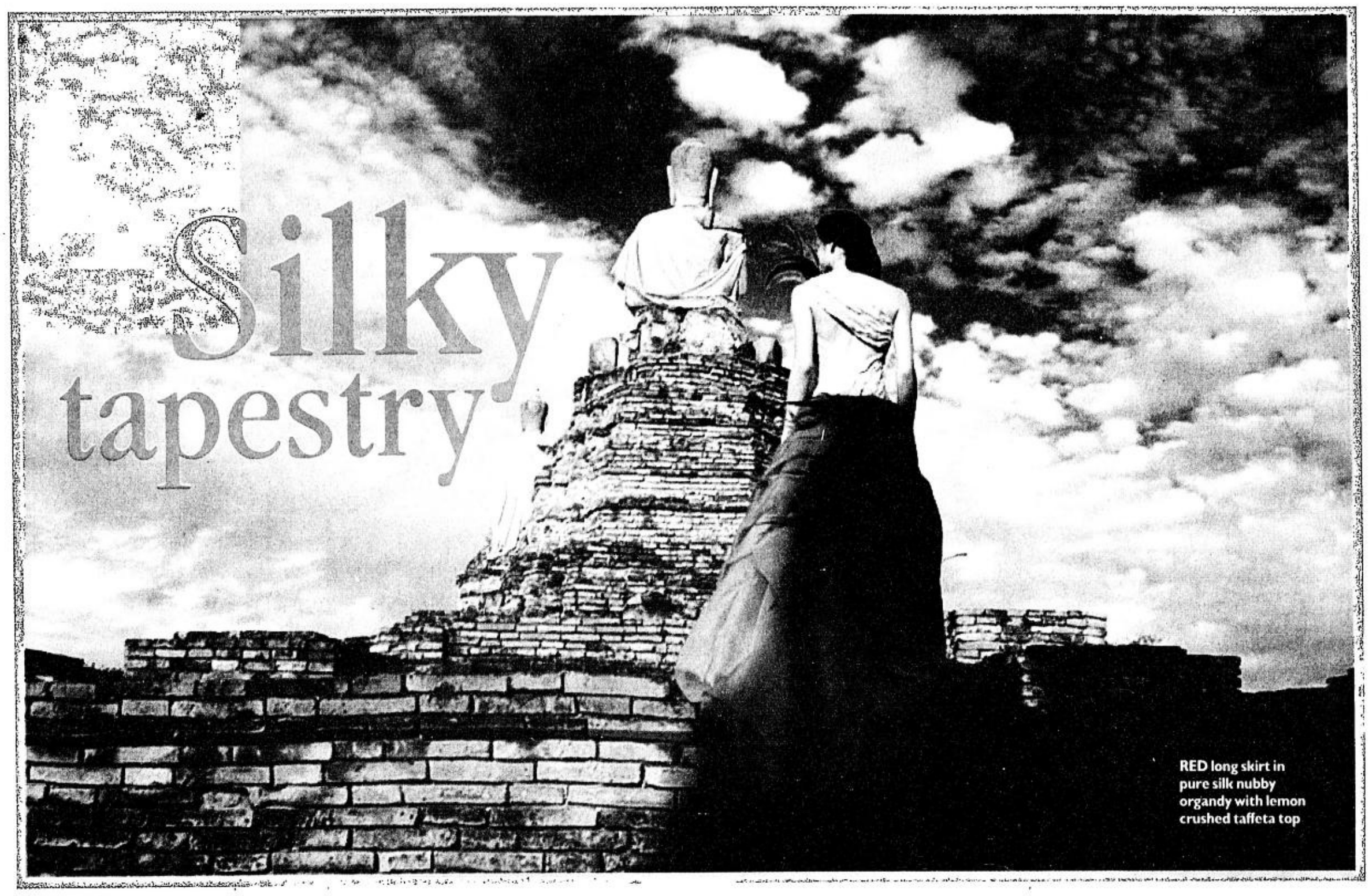
Seminar Schedules: Oct 15: 9am-12nn, Oct 22: 2pm-5pm, Oct 29: 9am-12nn
at the Ateneo Professional Schools, Rockwell. ADMISSION IS FREE.

For reservations, please call 884-1517, or email philwacoal@skyinet.net

For the benefit of the Philippine Foundation for Breast Care, Inc.

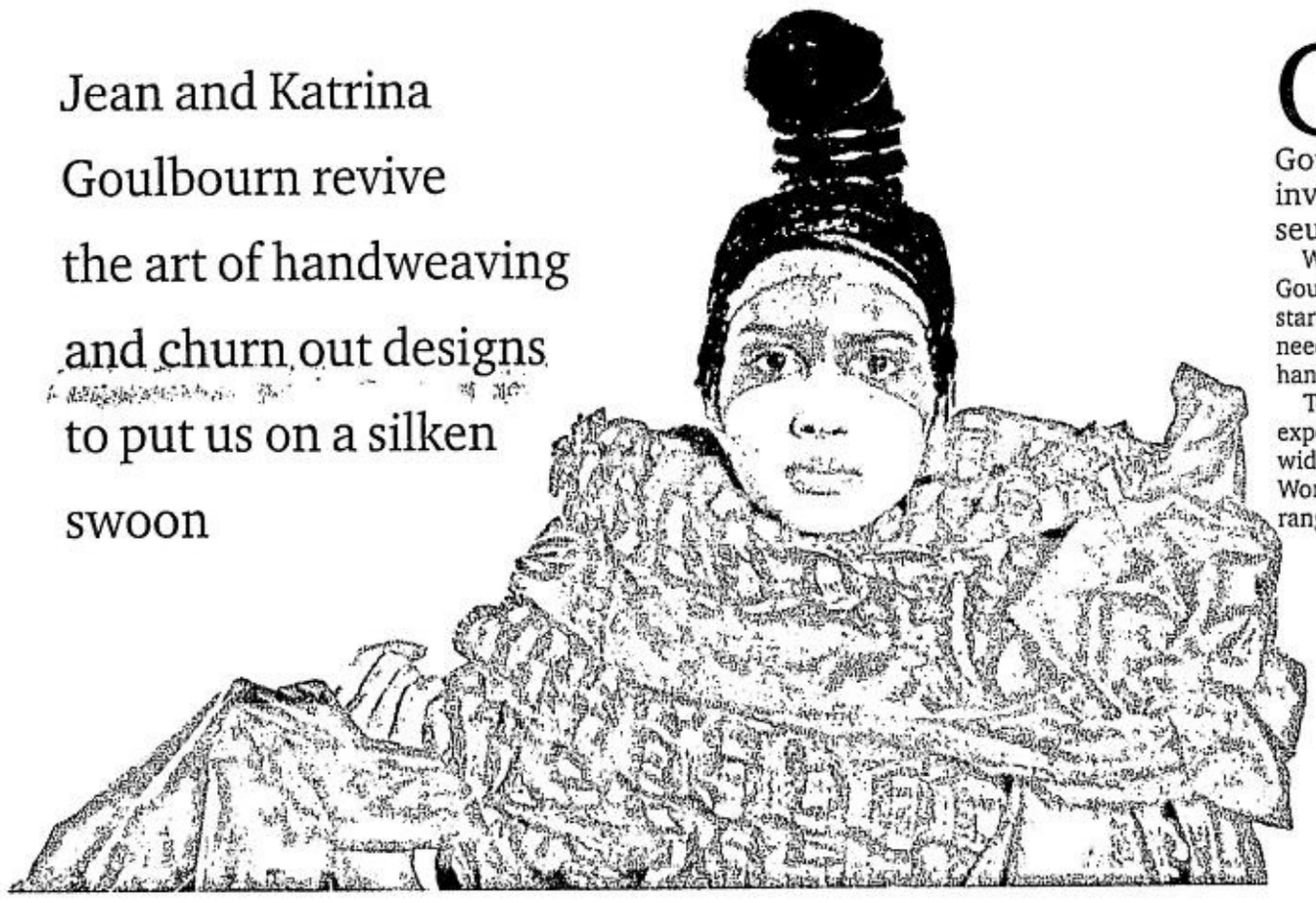


Silky tapestry



RED long skirt in pure silk nubby organdy with lemon crushed taffeta top

Jean and Katrina Goulbourn revive the art of handweaving and churn out designs to put us on a silken swoon



ON SILK COCOON'S 11TH anniversary on Nov. 11, designers Jean and Katrina Goulbourn will unwrap a special invitational show at the Ayala Museum called "Tapestry."

With Silk Cocoon, Goulbourn, whose JM Goulbourn label at SM department stores started the RTW trend in Manila, saw the need to revive the slowly diminishing art of handweaving.

Today, Silk Cocoon's handwoven textile is exported to distributors and architects worldwide. In the local scene, the boutique at New World Renaissance Hotel is well-known for a range of innovative barongs and stylish clothes and accessories for women.

Katrina Goulbourn, a graduate of Parsons Paris School of Design, has her own line of wedding gowns and designs for the younger market of Silk Cocoon. Her approach to fashion is modern elegance with a twist in the details and European touches.

"Tapestry" is the mother-and-daughter team's poetic translation of threading people together in creating not only something artistic but, more importantly, selecting people with socio-civic consciousness for the beneficiary, which is Gawad Kalinga.

Adding richness and depth to the event are sponsors Rustan's Essenses, San Miguel Corporation, Globe Platinum, HSBC, Bizu Patisserie.

SILK taffeta with black dyed leaf-stem insertions

WHITE silk taffeta bubble gown with twisted ending in feathers

PHOTOGRAPHED BY GIAMPIERO GASTALDI
SHOT ON LOCATION IN AYUTHAYA, BANGKOK, THAILAND

AD/HD Society sets Awareness Week activities

THE 3RD NATIONAL AD/HD AWARENESS week will be held Oct. 16-23. The AD/HD Society of the Philippines will spearhead various activities like "Takbo, ADaHaDa, Takbo," a fun run within Greenhills Commercial Center on Oct. 16 at 7 a.m.; an AD/HD School Awareness Caravan for the Federation of Associations of Public School Administrators, Oct. 19, Philippine Cultural High School; and a free public seminar on "Managing AD/HD in Children," Oct. 22, 8 a.m.-12 noon, Bulwagan ng Karunungan, Department of Education, Pasig City. Call 4266001.

GOINGS ON

SALE. Enjoy up to 80-percent discount on selected items at Robinsons Malls' October Super Sale today, 10 a.m.-12 midnight, and Oct. 15 and 16, regular mall hours.

FURNITALIA, distributor of Italian furniture brands, offers a special sale until Oct. 31 at Designmix Bldg., 59 Connecticut St., Northeast Greenhills, San Juan. Call 7220156 or 7220389.

MODEL SEARCH. The grand finals of the Barbie Fab 4 Model Search will be held Oct. 15 at Carousel Court, Festival Mall, Alabang.

COURSE. The Federation of Philippine Photographers Foundation will conduct a basic photo course starting Oct. 16. Call 8435341 or 8137320.

CELEBRATION. The Outstanding Women in the Nation's Service will mark TOWNS Week on Oct. 18-23. Activities like lecture on breast cancer, voluntary blood donation and eco-trek have been lined up. Call 4007558 or 9280611.

INDUCTION. The incoming officers and directors of Aliw Awards Foundation Inc. for 2006-2008 will be inducted on Oct. 19, 6 p.m., at Ibarra's Garden, Padre Faura St., Manila.

SHOW. Halloween Cat Fun Match will be held Oct. 23, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., at Tiendesitas en Frontera Verde, Pasig City. The show welcomes cat and animal lovers, trick or treaters and mall-goers. Call 7246749 or 8212571.

REUNION. "Dicada 80," the Immaculate Conception Academy Class of 1980s silver jubilee celebration will be held Nov. 19. A fireworks display will be followed by a buffet dinner and a show hosted by the cast of "Eat Bulaga." Get the chance to win prizes including cash and appliances. Tickets at P500 are available at the ICA Alumnae Office (tel. 7212687), or call 0917-8881128, 5311302 or 0917-8391763.

Registration starts at 3 p.m. at the Delia Tetrault Arts and Sports Center at ICA Greenhills. Net proceeds from the affair will go to the ICA Student Scholarship Fund.

BAZAAR. Karl Edward International will hold "Eastwood Tiangge Corner." Open daily, 11 a.m.-10 p.m., the *tiangge* is at Athena Plaza, East City Cyberpark, E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave., QC, and will run until Oct. 31. "Shop@thefort" resumes on Oct. 15, 16, 29 and 30 at the NBC Tent, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Check out the bargains at "Shop@Le Pavillion" on Oct. 22 and 23, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., at the Metropolitan Park, Edsa cor. Roxas Blvd., Pasay City.

PROMO. Robinsons Place Dasmariñas and Robinsons Place Lipa hold Pa-Scooter raffle promo until Oct. 31. Raffle draw is on Nov. 4. Also, get a chance to win instant prizes with a minimum purchase of P500 from any participating outlet on Oct. 15 and 16.

THE PENINSULA Manila Weekend Shopping Extravaganza is ongoing until Dec. 31. Guests can avail of great discounts or gifts from Laundry by Shelli Segal, Kate Spade, Jack Spade, Charriol, Fruits and Passion, Kenneth Cole, DKNY, Bass and Beauty Bar every time they book a deluxe room at The Pen. Call 8872888.

FORUM. The Japan Foundation, Manila, will hold the 2nd Nihongo Teachers' Forum on Nov. 4-5 at Japan International Cooperation Agency auditorium, 40/F Yuchengco Tower, RCBC Plaza, 6819 Ayala Ave., Makati. Call 8116155.

PHOTO TILT. The Federation of Philippine Photographers Foundation has launched a photo contest with corn farming and livelihood as theme. The competition is open to all amateur and professional photographers. Deadline for submission of entries is on Nov. 7. Call 8137420 or 8435341.

CONFERENCE. The 9th Asia Pacific Responsible Care Conference will be held Nov. 16-18, at Edsa Shangri-La Hotel. Call 6511749.

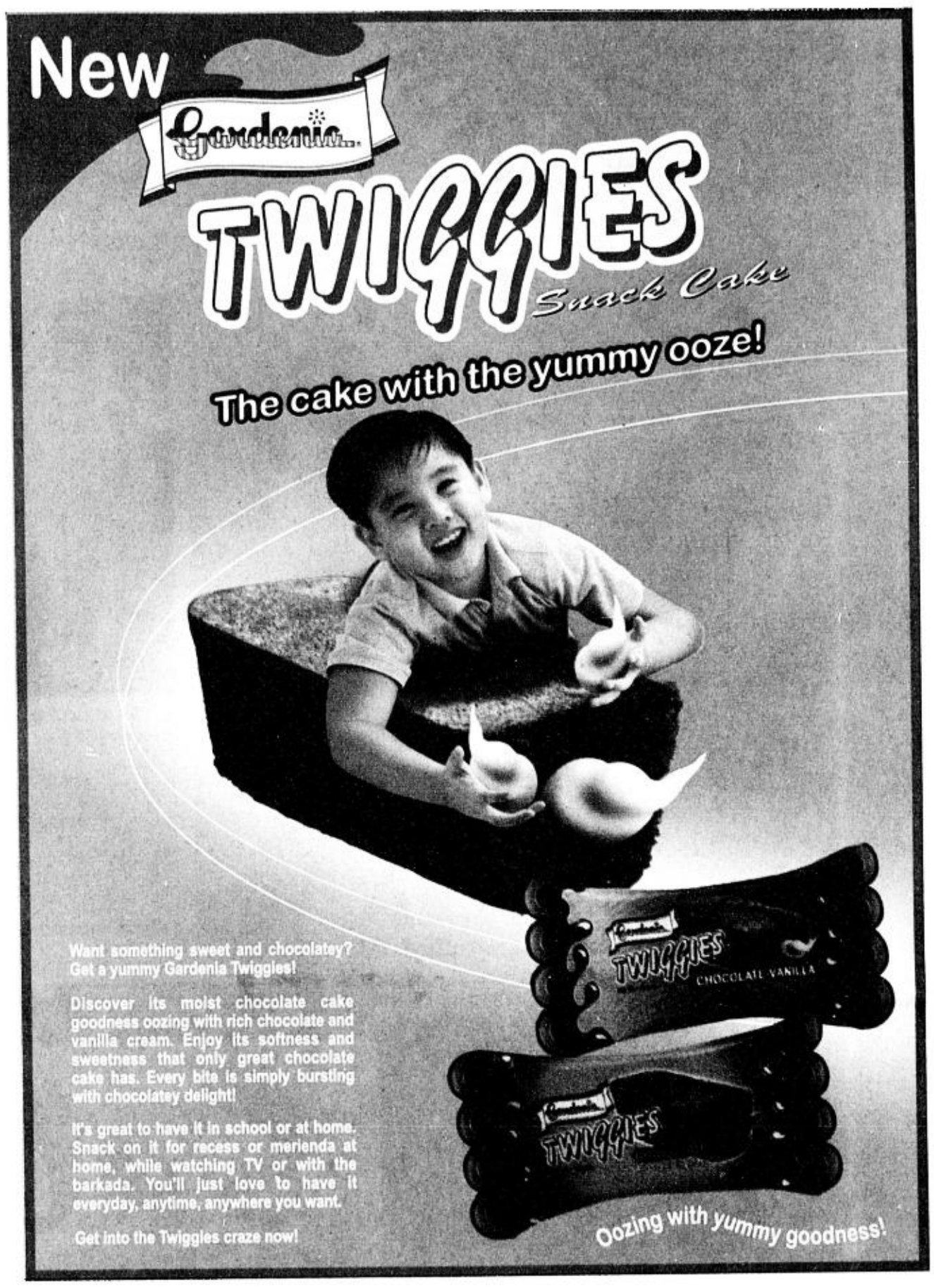
QUIZ SHOW WINNER. The Polytechnic University of the Philippines bagged the title of Tourism Wizards during the Department of Tourism's quiz show in Intramuros. The three-man team won P30,000, round-trip airfare and accommodation at Balicasag Dive Resort in Bohol. Members of the winning team, coached by professor Yolanda Montances, were Mark Harmon Anapi, May Pearl Landicho and Medel Santillan.

MERCELLES jewelry designer Josephine Turalba and Robert Wan, CEO of Perles de Tahiti GIE. Turalba recently won in the Tahitian Pearl Trophy 2005 Asia in Hong Kong. Her designs were Ablaze (accessory category) and Aurora (earrings category).

Autism Society holds conference

THE AUTISM SOCIETY PHILIPPINES (ASP) IS holding the 9th National Conference on Autism with the theme "Autismhelp For Filipinos with Autism" on Oct. 22-23, 8 a.m.- 5 p.m., at the Occupational Safety and Health Center (OSHC), North Ave. corner Science Road, QC.

Registration fee for ASP members is P1,200 and nonmembers, P1,600. Onsite registration fee for ASP members is P1,500 and nonmembers is P2,000. Registration fee includes handouts, souvenir program, certificate, one lunch and two snacks per day. Call 9266941 or 4368713. E-mail info@autismphils.org or autism-phils@pacific.net.ph



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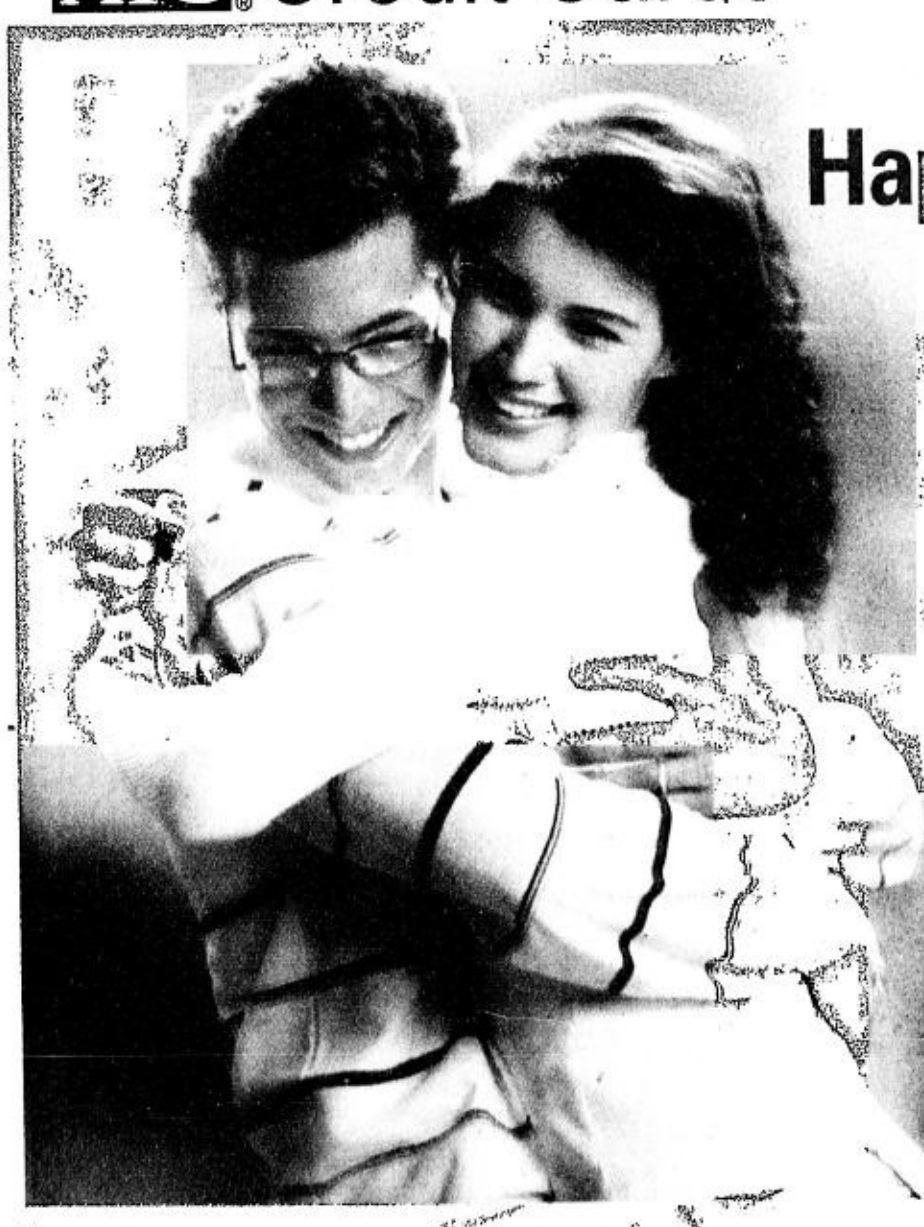

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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 5403 Series of 2005

Free-spirited individuals can revel in Morellato's Cultural collection, which brings to life ethnic traditions with natural stones and fashion materials

Bold, elegant sparklers

EBONY necklace

IF YOU'RE LOOKING TO CREATE bold statements through playful jewelry, Morellato offers eye-catching steel pieces with gold accents and enriched with diamonds and natural stones that are sure to add interest to your day-to-day getup.

Chic meets sleek in the unisex Trendy collection of superb design and intimate perfection.

Morellato's Elegant collection, meanwhile, pairs natural stones such as quartz, cornelian and onyx with classic studs like sapphires, rubies and diamonds.

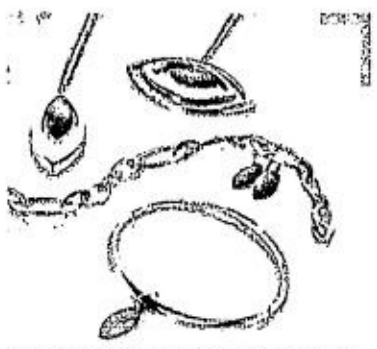
The brand's Customized collection for men offers a strong mix of leather, steel, gold and natural diamonds. Morellato's Masculine line is all about assertive, elegant masculinity.

Free-spirited individuals can revel in Morellato's Cultural collection, which brings to life ancient ethnic traditions with its fusion of fashion materials and natural stones. Piercing shapes and powerful patterns combine to produce an arresting collection.

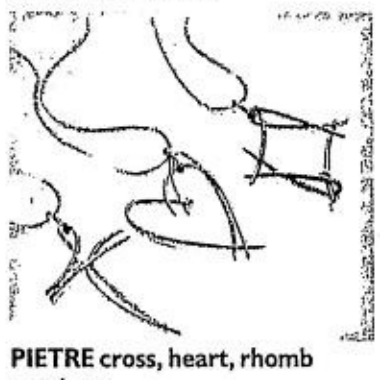
Finally, there's the Symbolical collection, with its evocative shapes and splendid one-piece creations.

Morellato is exclusively available at the Morellato kiosk located at 4/L The Podium Mall, My Diamond Store at 2/F Glorietta 4 (7571086), and My Diamond at G/L Edsa Shangri-La Plaza Mall (6389376).

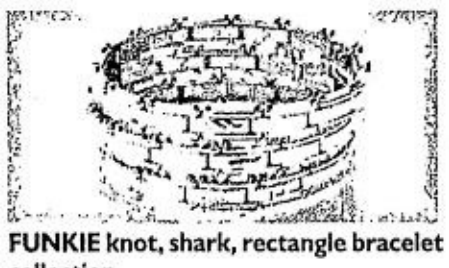
ZEUS necklace from Masculine collection



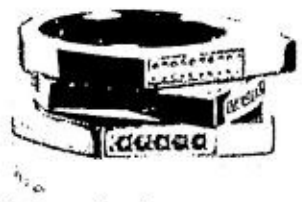
MARQUISE coral necklace and bracelet collection



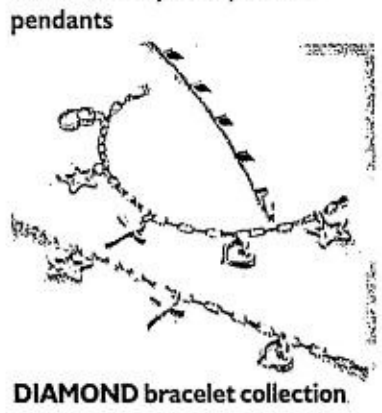
PIETRE cross, heart, rhomb pendants



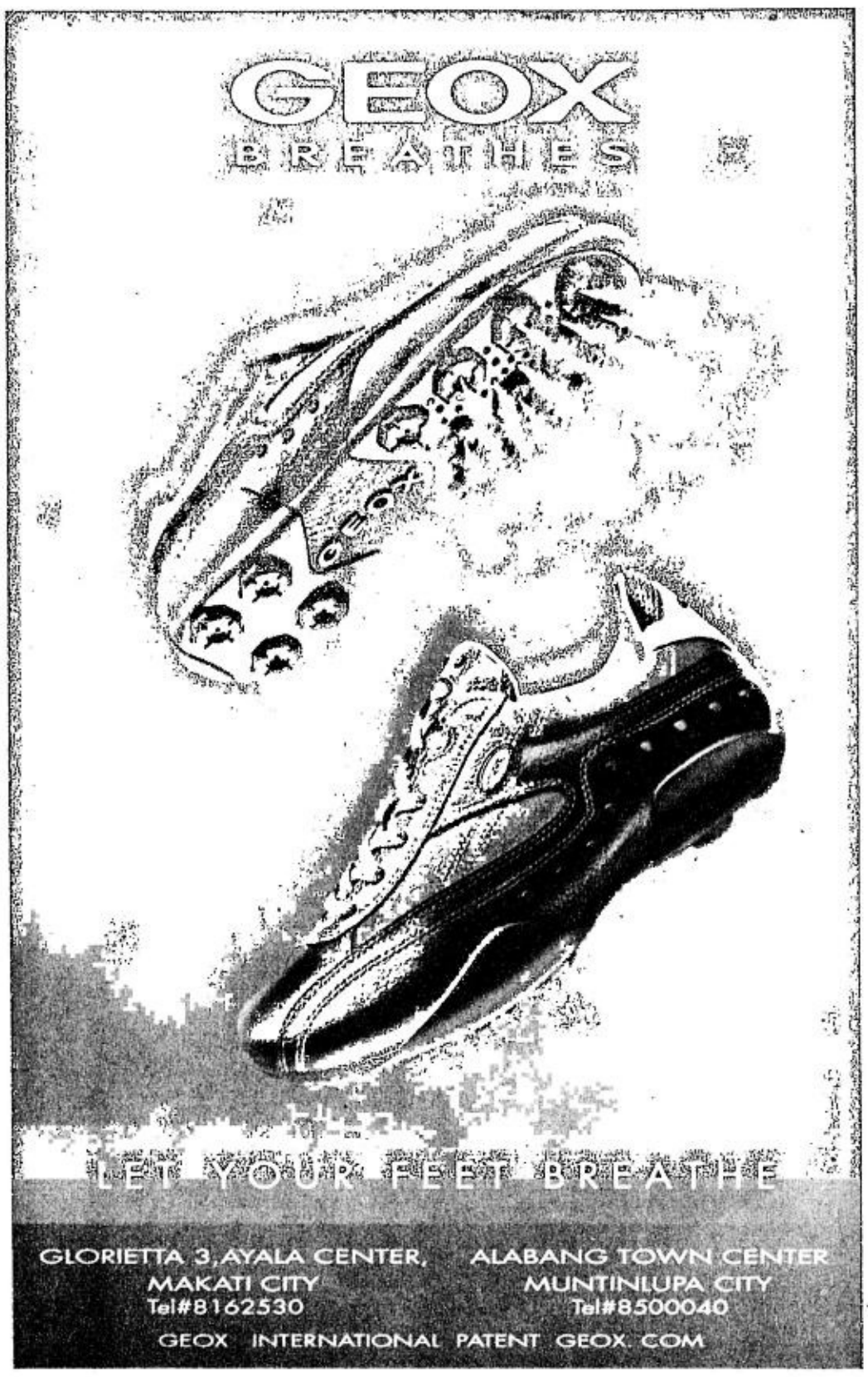
FUNKIE knot, shark, rectangle bracelet collection



PAVE ring collection



DIAMOND bracelet collection



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Sale!

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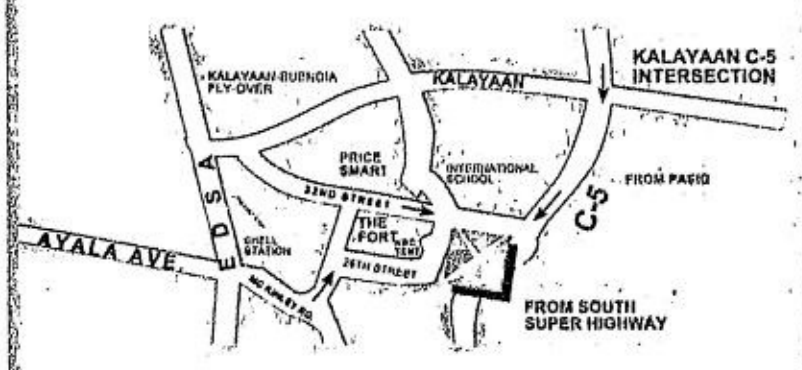

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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A2-455, Series of 2005.

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Radiantly perfect skin

MAKEOVER 911

Kinny Salas

Awake Cosmetics from Japan offers makeup that helps achieve Old-World sheen and glamour

AWAKE COSMETICS HAS A SPECIAL TREAT for beauty addicts like us. A full makeup line has hit counters in time for Fall 2005.

There are beautiful limited-edition colors for eyes, cheeks and face for us to easily achieve Old-World glamour. Being a Japanese line, Awake, of course, has come up with a super no-budge mascara, foundation and concealer that cover imperfections without looking mask-y.

To achieving the look of perfect skin, the idea is to recreate our skin's complexion, its appearance and texture. Each of the three items in the Invention series delivers results that make skin look radiantly perfect. I will present them according to the order of application.

Awake Invention Color Management Makeup Base SPF 15 PA++, P1,250. This serves as a foundation primer, making the foundation last longer, and the skintone and texture more even while giving added protection from the damaging rays of the sun and artificial light.

There are three colors to choose from: Petal Pink for a rosy tone, Canary Yellow to counter redness and make Asian skin look fresh, and Stella Blue to enhance skin translucency. I chose Stellar Blue because it made my skin look like those Hong Kong movie stars with perfectly smooth porcelain skin.

Invention Stretch Concealer, P1,200. I seldom rave about concealers, but this one is a winner. It made my somewhat medium-large pores look miniscule without caking, and covered up my undereye circles without settling into fine lines. Great for freckles and post-pimple marks, too. A little goes a long way, and a thin layer gives maximum coverage without caking, so the concealer is undetectable.

It comes in three shades and goes before powder foundation but after liquid foundation. Tip: Take time to ask the salesperson to teach you to apply the concealer.

Invention Light Focus Powder, P1,450, and Compact, P450. Unlike Caucasian faces, Asians have less chiseled facial contours and features. This powder foundation not only serves to even out skintone, give coverage and keep oil at bay.

The big deal about this is that it mimics the smooth radiance of the surface of a sphere, giving the face a three-dimensional finish that is radiant while looking natural. This especially helps in photos where Asians look flat and dull compared to more chiseled Caucasians.

Jewel Dazzle Color Collection

Awake's limited edition for October 2005: The Jewel Dazzle Eye Color Collection comes in four colors per set for a total of three collections at P1,950 each. Diamond, in shades of silver, black and white, was my choice because it was the most value for money in my opinion. It can be used for the dramatic smoky eye look with pale- or deep-colored lips, and can be used to add drama or tone down existing eye shadow colors.

If one applied too much, just top with white. If color is too pale, add black for drama. To transform a day look into evening, top with silver.

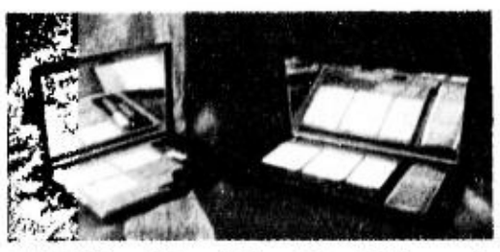
Star Ruby—pinks, roses and burgundy—is the choice for those who like a more subtle look. The hue looks very mysterious with Filipina coloring, and will be preferred by those who are used to brown eye shadow but want a change and a bit more drama.

Black Pearl—red and pink hues in plums, gray green and gray blue—are very glamorous colors. This was the most popular set among media people who got first crack at the collection.

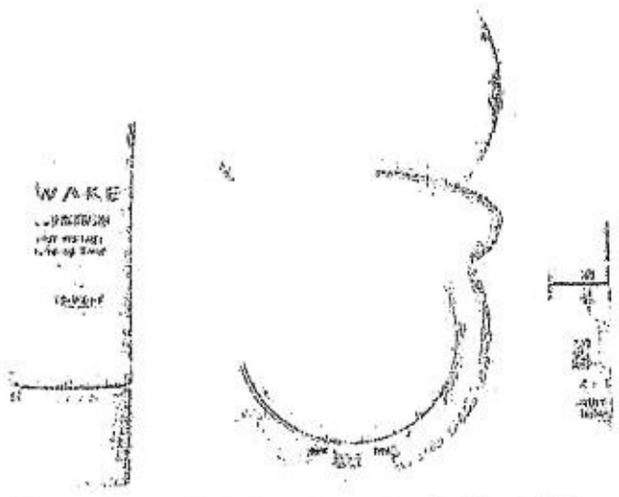
Jewel Dazzle Face Color Collection is a three-color set of two collections at P2,150 each. The first from the left of the palette is a gloss base to create high shine and translucency. The second is Shimmer Base that contains large flecks of pearlescent powder to make skin glow, and an Accent Base for natural shadow and contour. Choose between Platinum for a cool and translucent finish, or Gold for a gorgeous golden shimmer.

The Roll Curl Mascara, P1,350, will stay put through all the tears and sweat. The first mascara without a brush, it has to be experienced to be believed. Applied on top of lashes first then underneath, it will dry up and shrink, leaving lashes curled up. Since there are no bristles, you can go as close to the lash line as possible. I got black, peacock (green blue) and violet.

Lip lift Stardom Pure Creamy, P1,150. As the name states, this provides a very creamy, hydrating satin finish which lasts long and makes my lips look fuller. The pigment is so rich it seems to renew itself, so one does not need to worry about retouching often. I got Garnet Glow, a Rosy Mauve shade that goes well with the other makeup brands and the violet-eyes trend.

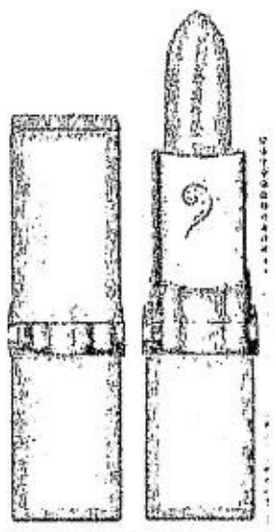


AWAKE Jewel Dazzle Eye Color in Diamond and Face Color in Platinum

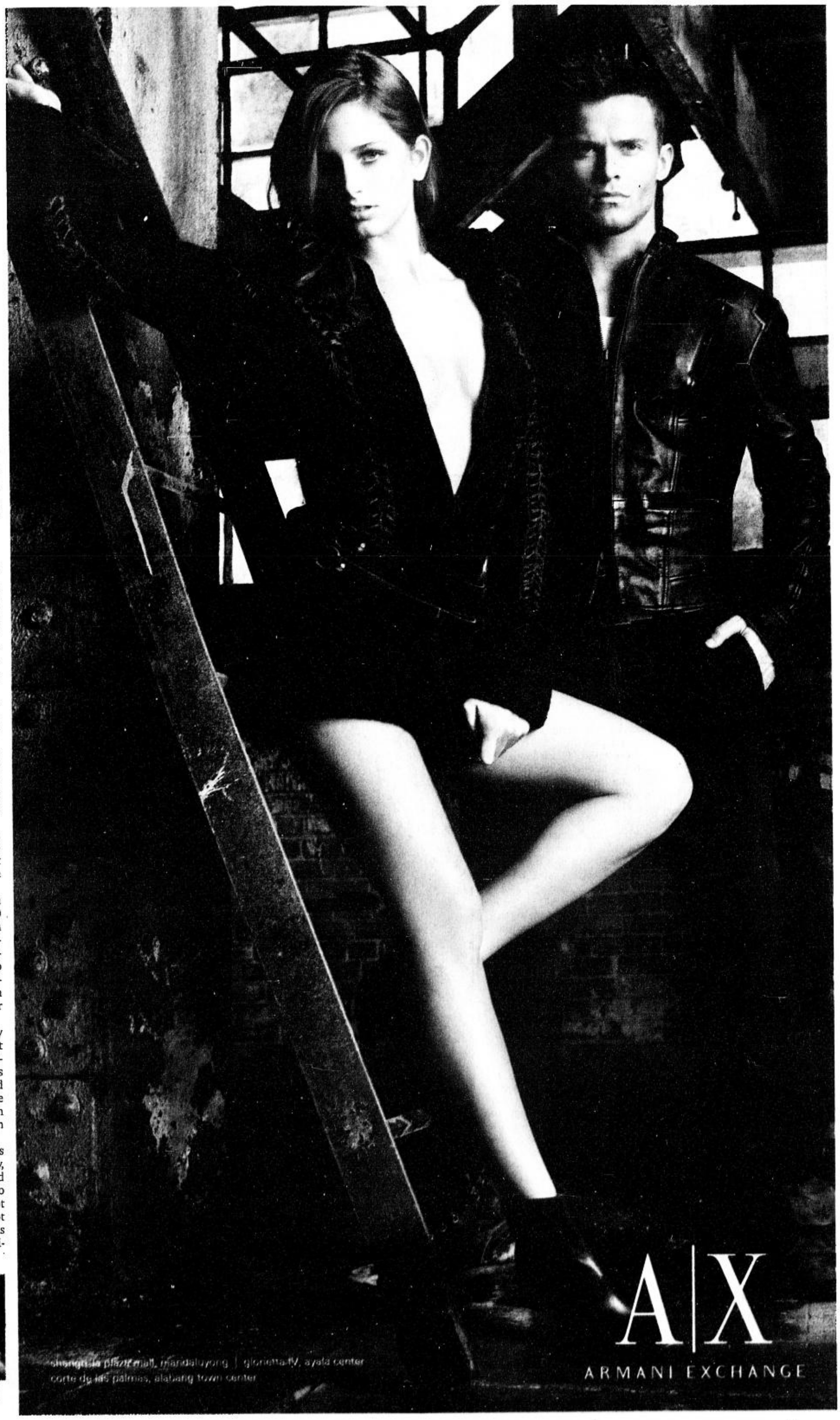


AWAKE Invention family: Makeup Base, Powder Foundation and Stretch Concealer

AUTUMN Roll Curl Mascara



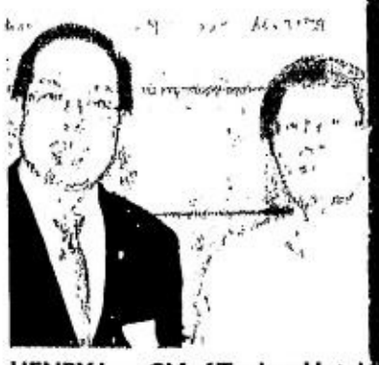
AUTUMN Lipstick in Garnet Glow



THREE MAIN MEN. John Rice, general manager of Edsa Shangri-La; Timothy Wright, Shangri-La Mactan Island Resort Spa GM; and Jarlath Lynch, Makati Shangri-La GM

TOP ARCHITECT Anton Mendoza, party crawler Pepper Teehankee, eye-catching Ria Romero of NBC and Philippine Tatler editor Anton San Diego

SHANGRI-LA Hotel's Joy Wassmer



HENRY Lee, GM of Traders Hotel, and Joseph Ong, World News advertising and marketing directo

JOPY Lopez, director of sales and marketing of Traders Hotel; *moi*; Lourdes Arrieta, communications manager, Traders Hotel; Delia Gutierrez of Media Gateway

METRO Society associate editor Raul Manzano

Swinging tropical party

CLOSE PALS. My *palangga* Ethel Timbol, Manila Bulletin lifestyle editor, and bubbly Nelia Neri of the popular Sunstar Cebu Daily

DELICIOUS looker Tuesday Vargas and GMA 7's cyber smart Ria de Guzman

SHARON Samarista, pretty director of communications, Shangri-La's Mactan Island Resort and Spa; and Beni Gomez, media representative, Action Asia

PR MAN Philip Abadicio and eye-catching fashion plate Carla Sibal, Mega editor in chief

CHRISTOPHER Romine, Shangri-La Makati's brilliant executive chef, and Sigi Bierbaumer, resident manager of the hotel

COOL-AS-A-SUMMER-BREEZE Janine Yu of What's On-Expat, May Martinez of Mabuhay and Paolo Lacsamana

DYNAMIC Shangri-La Makati really knows how to say thank you, *palanggas*. It hosted a media appreciation party superbly organized by its Philippine properties (Edsa Shangri-La, Manila; Makati Shangri-La, Manila; Shangri-La's Mactan Island Resort and Spa; and Traders Hotel, Manila).

The party, called "Tropical Chillout Nights," had a flow of endless premium wines and absolutely delicious food, not to mention the to-die-for, calorie-rich dessert station that made every chocoholic's jaw drop!

The party was supposed to have been held at the hotel's tropical garden on the third floor, but because of the rain, it was moved to the ballroom. No tropical setting here, but tons of tropical colors and outfits worn by the guests that flocked to this once-a-year happening, dahlings.

Shangri-La's men and women put their best foot forward; they oozed with charm, especially the super-gracious GMs—the very fun **John Rice** of Edsa Shangri-La; the incomparable **Jarlath Lynch** of Makati Shangri-La; tall, witty and fun **Timothy Wright** of Shangri-La's Mactan Island Resort and Spa; and the great **Henry Lee** of Traders Hotel.

Completing the exceptional team of Edsa Shangri-La were its director of sales and marketing, Mr. Charmer himself, adorable **Benedict Lim**, and its new director of communication, **Neil Rumbaoa**, with his delightful assistants **Angel Javier** and **Lorna Martin**. Also present was smart **Joy Wassmer**, director of communication, who was here, there and just everywhere, entertaining the cool, fun pack.

Needless to say, the Shangri-La group's hottest personality was brilliant **Tom Zita**, chairman of Shangri-La Hotels and Resorts, who delivered short, to-the-point opening remarks.

The affair was emceed by energetic and handsome Neil Rumbaoa and pretty **Tuesday Vargas**, who got the party on a roll with party games and raffles.

The ambience, like *moi* said earlier, was definitely not tropical. Colorful lanterns adorned the ceiling. There was subdued lighting. The lounge furniture was absolutely fabulous; it was by a local furniture firm, Locsin International.

Getting us into the rock-and-roll mood was super DJ **Elbert Cuenca**, who played smooth Latin rhythms throughout the evening (Cuenca is a computer businessman by day, *palanggas*).

Grabbing everyone's full attention were the energizing Brazilian beat of up-and-coming fab group, Nyko Maca, and the popular acoustic stylings of **Paolo Santos** himself; plus the fabulous voice of **Nicole**, with whom I had always partied with but never known was a fantastic singer.

Looking their tropical best, as far as *moi* was concerned, were super fun **Greggy Vera Cruz** of Woman Today (in a bright orange chemise accessorized with orange leis and matching bracelets) and **Earl Bracamonte** of Daily Tribune (in cool board shorts, sunglasses and trendy flip flops).

Pretty **Janine Yu** of What's On-Expat was delicious in her cool lemon-yellow summer outfit, matching the tropic mood. Mega Society's **Raul Manzano** was breezy in a Caribbean bermuda short outfit. Eye-catching Tuesday Vargas was as colorful as her personality. PR whiz **Donnie Ramirez** looked relaxed in his Hawaiian-printed shirt. Top-of-the-line architect **Anton Mendoza** looked fab in a red and black print.

WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH

Maurice Arcache

Photos by **Alex Van Hagen** using **Kodak** EasyShare system

Chilling out were stylish **Ethel Timbol** of Manila Bulletin; Dolly Dy of Flavors Magazine; gorgeous **Tessa Mauricio** and **Ricky Gallardo** of Manila Times; artist and food-lover Claude Tayag with his wife **Mary Ann**; and classy **Ria Romero** of NBC. From the "City of Smiles" were super fun **Marlinda Tan** of the Freeman and vivacious **Nelia Neri** of Sun Star Cebu.

Ruby alumnae

Assumption alumnae are preparing for their once-in-a-lifetime *velada* presentation. The *velada* is eight months in the making. The ruby jubilarians have been rehearsing for eight weeks now for an eight-minute production.

"Old Girls Days" will be mounted this Sunday at the newly renovated Mother Rose Hall at Assumption College, Makati.

Mind you, these are super-busy women of substance handling corporate executive duties, housework, and charities here and abroad.

"It was really not uncommon for us to get together," said **Lory-Vi Valdes**, who's in charge of production. After all, they have known each other for more than four decades, since kindergarten days at Assumption convent, and they have kept their closeness.

Be there, *palanggas*, it should be an awesome happening.

THE FANTASTIC voice of Nicole, lead vocalist of Nyko Maca, gets the house rocking.

THE FAB Paolo Santos

Bazaar

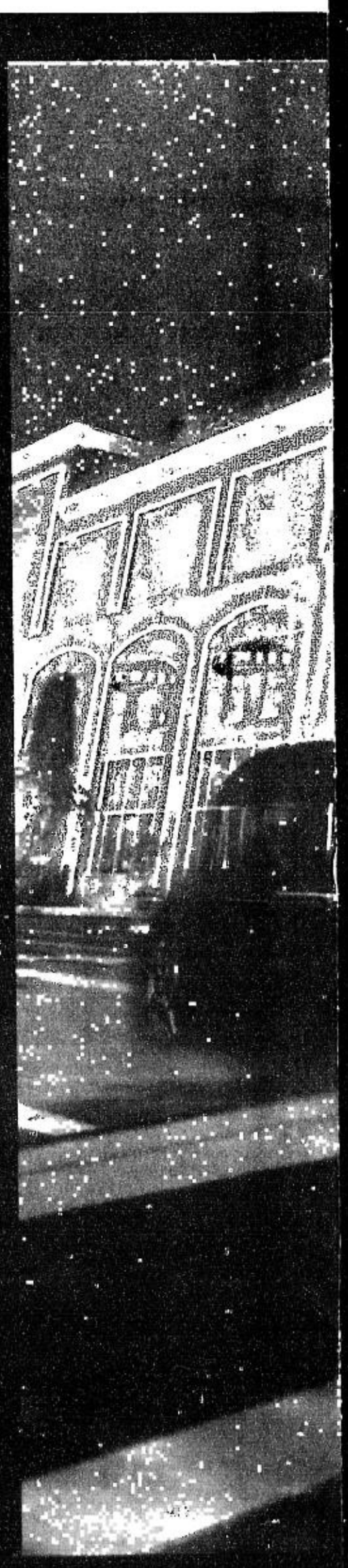
Hey! Be there on Oct. 16 and 23 for the Catholic Women's Club's Casa y Jardin Charity Bazaar at the Intercon.

The bazaar will feature tons of holiday foods, Christmas décor, jewelry, and other goodies, *palanggas*. The bazaar will also offer the limited-edition Mother-and-Child plates, by portrait artist **Betsy B. Westendorp**, no less.

All proceeds will be for the benefit of over 80 charities, supported by the CWC under its president, **Linda Pastoral**, dahlings.

It's going to be a fab bazaar for

Stylish Manila shops here.



Cosmopoliglam by James Reyes
Inspired by the Power Plant Mall's high-glam meets high-street chic
The Power Plant Mall's most distinctive architectural detail,
its neon blue arch, is translated into
the that silk top's aqua blue arch detail.
All that's chic and fashionable converge at the Power Plant Mall.

ROCKWELL
Call 890-6888 or visit www.e-rockwell.com

WHAT'S On-Expat president Butch Bonsol; *tres charmant* Benedict Lim, top director of sales and marketing, Edsa Shangri-La; and *la simpatica* Chona Trinidad, Daily Tribune columnist

ATTRACTIVE Tessa Mauricio of Manila Times, Ricky Gallardo of Philippine Star and popular PR Donnie Ramirez

CARLA Benares-Andaya, Mao Tabunar-Cardenas, Imelda Vistan-Castillo, Baby Baluyot-Fricke, Baby Gaborro-Cruz, Lory-Vi Valdes; Menchu Tantoco-Lopez, Gerry Sotto-Padilla, Maridith Veloso-Limjoco, Inday Poblador, Mila Lichaur-Brandner, Jennifer Dayrit-Leviste, Juliet Medina-Evangelista, Sylvia Heras-Lopez, Vicki Ongpin-Perlas, Mary Ann Ansaldo-Chan, Dulce Festin Baybay; Carmeling Cardenas, Cita Gomez-San Mateo, Claudia Escudero-Camacho, Baby Sandico-Pascual, Luluday Villanueva, Bettina Lao, Carmencita de Borja-Clavecilla, Lillibeth Ampil-Vistan, Brenda Quirolgico-Heffron, Tess Crespo-Alsua, Tina Vargas-Quiros, Rose Diokno-Lopez, Corito Ocampo-Tayag, Bing Sibal-Limjoco, Marianne de Ocampo-Fragante, and Diutay Peñaflorida-Castro

a great cause.

Culinary tour de force

Intercontinental Manila and the Embassy of Portugal are giving us another culinary tour de force with the visit of good-looking, super articulate Portuguese Chef of the Year 2004 winner, super creative **Luis Americo Teixeira**.

Until Oct. 19, the 33-year-old culinary expert will prepare a buffet of popular yummy Portuguese dishes and desserts at Café Jeepney. Priced at P900+ per person, "The Best of Portugal" eat-all-you-can buffet, *palanggas*, is available for lunch Monday-Sunday and for dinner Monday-Saturday.

Complementing the extraordinary treat are excellent Portuguese wines, at P600 net per person.

During our to-die-for lunch, we found out that the renowned Chef Teixeira is the owner of the No. 1 restaurant in Porto, Portugal, Quinta do Pendao, and is a partner and pastry chef at Foz Velha Restaurant. He is at present the vice president of Circulo do Norte, the association for gastronomic development in North Portugal.

Included in the buffet, which they will change every day, are salt cod and sardines, which share top billing as favorite fish; pork is considered "king of *carne*." The Portuguese claim to know 365 ways of preparing "bacalhau."

Among Chef Luis' offerings for this must-go-to week-long festival are Covilhetes Villa Real (small hot meat pies); Roast Suckling Pig, Bairada style; Pork Loin stuffed with Black Prunes; Clams with coriander "a Bulhao Pato"; Tuna Steaks in Onion Sauce; Bacalhau "a Bras" with Eggs and Fried Potatoes; Alentajo Pudding; Custard Tartlets, plus other Portuguese delights, dahlings.

For reservations, call 8159711.

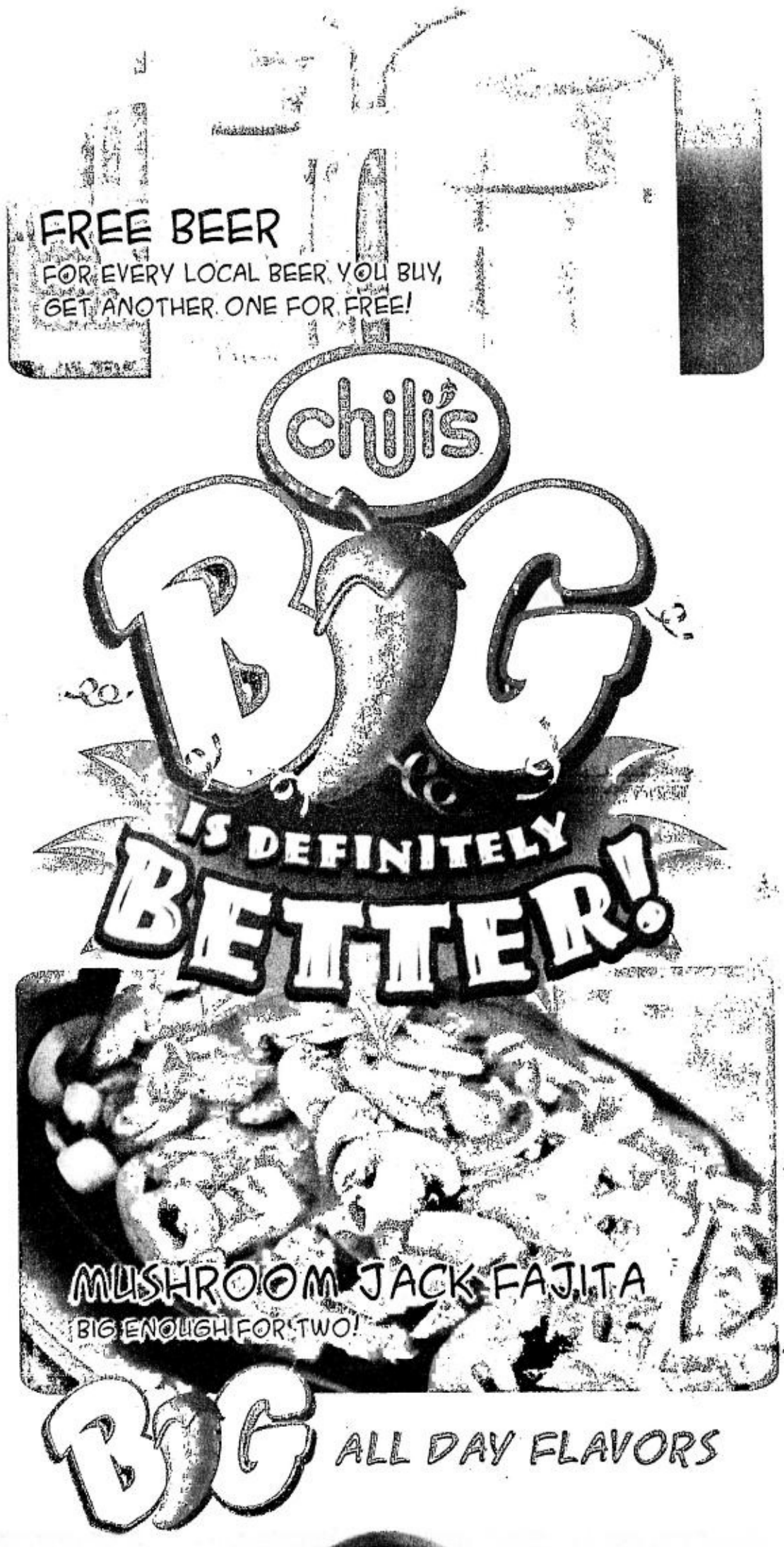
BABY Cruz with tireless Lory-Vi Valdes

GUEST chef Luis Americo Teixeira of Portuguese food festival

CARMELA Bocanegra with *moi* and Susan Calo Medina

PORTUGUESE Ambassador Joao Caetano da Silva, Francis Concepcion and Luis Americo Teixeira

MYRNA Borromeo, Nikki Valerio, Cecille Limjuco, Linda Pastoral, Mimi Valerio, Tessie Villarama and Nene Leonor. Standing: Lulu Castañeda, Tess Castro, Baby Gloria, Carrie Bautista, Chat Pueo and Rose Hugo



VINCE Hizon, basketball player, and Shaan Bermudez Hizon, sportscaster

RJ LEDESMA, Manual magazine editor in chief and real-estate developer

FORMER Sen. Eva Estrada-Kalaw

Manila, Davao hold walk for breast cancer

AVON, THE GLOBAL BEAUTY company, will hold the second and third legs of its 3K non-competitive fun walk "Avon Walk Around the World for Breast Cancer" on Oct. 16 in Davao City and Oct. 23 in Manila.

The three-city event is open to men and women of all ages. It is expected to raise P500,000-P1 million. Total funds raised will be matched by Avon Foundation and will benefit the Vicente Sotto Memorial Medical Center, Davao Medical Center and the Philippine General Hospital (PGH) Breast Care Center.

Avon, the largest corporate supporter of the breast cancer cause, will also hold a sale of special edition KGBC "Celebrate" lipsticks for the entire month of October. For every lipstick sold, P5 will go to breast care clinic beneficiaries.

Through KGBC or Kiss Goodbye to Breast Cancer (KGBC) campaign, Avon helped create awareness of the dreaded disease. Early KGBC campaigns resulted in the establishment of the PGH Breast Care Center.

Various personalities have expressed their support for Avon's advocacy.

Model and host Derek Ramsay says he supports the campaign because his family consists mostly of women.

Sculptor-artist Lia Torralba invites people to the fun walk to support Avon's efforts to help women with breast cancer.

Educator and breast cancer survivor Carol Porio says that though the disease needs special attention and support, being afflicted with it does not mean the end of the world.

Breast-cancer survivor and former Senator Eva Estrada-Kalaw stresses that the importance of prevention is better.

INQUIRER lifestyle columnist and former model Apples Aberin-Sadhwani says early detection is key to managing the problem.

Artist Honey Huertas says she wants women to be aware of the problem and be involved in fighting the disease.

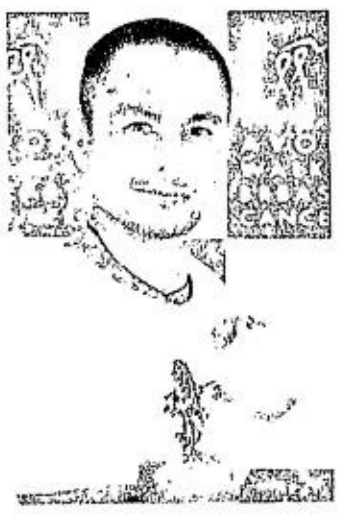
Even professional basketball player Vince Hizon has expressed his full support for the campaign. His wife, sportscaster Shaan Hizon says she wants to do her part in helping women with the problem.

TV host and Manual magazine editor RJ Ledesma says men should also be sensitive to the issue.

Avon Walk is supported by GMA Network Inc., Globe Girlfriends, Novartis Oncology, Equitable PCI Bank, Bine Philippines, AstraZeneca, Progrizive, Inc., Sepphil Inc., and Jollibee and partners Philippine College of Surgeons, Philippine Cancer Society, Inc. and Polytechnic University of the Philippines.

Visit the Avon Davao branch on C.M. Recto Blvd., Davao City. Metro Manila. Call 8642670-73 or visit Avon boutiques in SM Megamall and Glorietta.

LIA TORRALBA, artist



DEREK Ramsay, model and host

CAROL PORIO, breast-cancer survivor and educator

MANILA... MEET ZARA!

Spanish women's line Zara is finally in Manila!

Opening its first store in 1975 in A Coruña, Spain, Zara debuted overseas in Porto, Portugal in 1988, followed by successful store launches in New York (1989) and Paris (1990). Zara now has a network of 750 outlets in key cities of 58 countries across Europe, the Americas, Asia, Middle East, and Africa. Its international presence clearly shows that there are neither cultural nor geographic boundaries when it comes to global style.

Zara knows the pulse of society, constantly adapting to ideas, trends, and tastes that society itself has created. With a creative team of more than 200 professionals, Zara is always in the fashion loop- with new pieces reaching the stores as often as twice a week. The stores themselves are carefully designed spaces, located in the best sites of major shopping districts.

It comes as no surprise then, that Zara opens in hip and happening Manila. Its fashion-forward citizens will get to clad themselves in European dressing at its chicest. Stores Specialists, Inc. Executive Vice President and local distributor of Zara shares, "We are truly excited with the arrival of Zara in Manila. Many have been looking forward to the availability of their quality and stylish products in the country. Once again, this is part of our mission as a retailer in bringing in the best brands in the world to the Philippines."

Zara is a part of the Inditex group, one of the world's largest fashion distributors with over 2,400 outlets worldwide. In addition to Zara, Inditex also carries a roster popular brands that includes Kiddy's Class (clothes, fragrances, and cosmetics for children), Pull and Bear (for youth aged 14 to 28), Massimo Dutti (sophisticated fashions for men, women, and children), Bershka and Stradivarius (for trendy girls), Oysho (men's and women's undergarments, as well as lingerie), and Zara Home (specializing in home furnishings such as bed, table, and bathroom linen, tableware, cutlery, glassware, and decorative items).

Zara will open on October 15, 2005 at the Power Plant Mall, Rockwell.

Zara is exclusively distributed by Stores Specialists, Inc.

ADVT

For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Text us your feedback:
inquirer life name/age/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

ZARA exemplifies Spanish sass and class.

Iberian fashion house opens in Manila

THE BRAND'S collections are updated as often as twice a week.

TOP SPANISH BRAND ZARA WILL OPEN ON Oct. 15 at the Power Plant Mall in Rockwell, Makati.

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For Spotless and Blemish-Free Skin

A Blemish Eraser That Really *Works!*

Picture-perfect skin can now be a reality with IPL Photorejuvenation Treatment. No other procedure has ever been developed that can accomplish so much with so little risk and downtime.

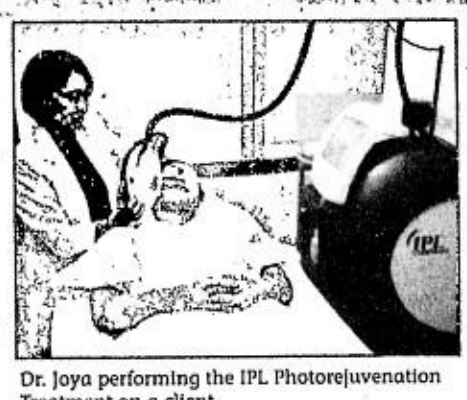
Janet Ley, enjoying her clear, flawless skin.

One satisfied client, Janet Ley, relates her happiness with IPL: "I like it. I really like it because after only my second treatment, my freckles are gone!"

IPL Photorejuvenation Treatment helps banish freckles, dark spots, and spider veins without a trace. According to Janet, "I believe my freckles became more prominent as I got older. So whenever I went out of the house, I would use face powder to cover them up. But now I don't use anything anymore because they're all gone! And now people would tell me that I have really nice, flawless skin."

IPL is a gentle, non-invasive treatment that uses a broad spectrum of light to treat the face, neck, chest, back, hands and virtually anywhere that sun damage or blemishes show. It uses the Intense Pulsed Light technology to correct a variety of skin conditions such as skin imperfections: freckles, skin discoloration, signs of ageing, age spots, unsightly spider veins, broken capillaries, rosacea and other blemishes. Facial Care Centre's Dr. Maria Isabelita Joya says, "IPL's amazing results include: better skin tone, reduced blotchiness, pigmentations and broken blood vessels, smoother surface texture, and a more youthful-looking skin."

To restore an overall youthful look, IPL can simultaneously treat a wide variety of skin concerns safely and effectively. It erases skin damage with minor disruption on the skin's surface unlike other conventional treatments. As another satisfied client, Dr. Ariel Torres, would attest: "Im an avid golfer so Im very much exposed to the sun. That's how I had freckles. And Ive tried every whitening product you can possibly think of: whitening cream, whitening lotion, sunblock, scrub, I even bought this thing from Hong Kong that youre supposed to drink to lighten your skin...nothing! It lightens up your skin for a while but you can't expose yourself to the sun anymore. And for avid players like me, that's totally unthinkable! So when I tried IPL, I was really impressed. Just after the first treatment, there were already visible, dramatic results! IPL is really the only treatment that worked for me."



Dr. Joya performing the IPL Photorejuvenation Treatment on a client.

Another satisfied client, Dr. Ariel Torres.

Like Dr. Torres and Janet Ley, many satisfied clients have reported a reduction in age spots, freckles, and other skin discoloration. Most women who lead active and busy lifestyles are happy with the fact that aside from the visible improvement in their skin, they experience relatively no downtime. This means that one can actually have fairer, even-toned, glowing skin after approximately 30 minutes of treatment, and can go to work on the same day, as if nothing happened at all!

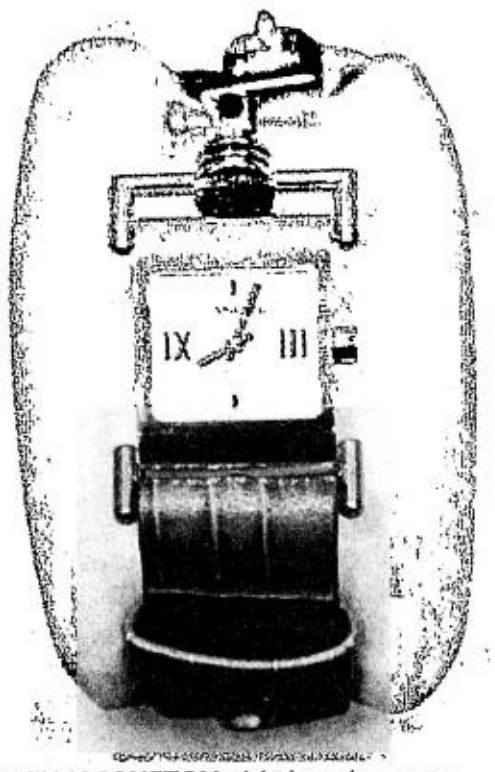
Dr. Maria Isabelita Joya with the IPL machine.

Now isn't this the best news for your skin?

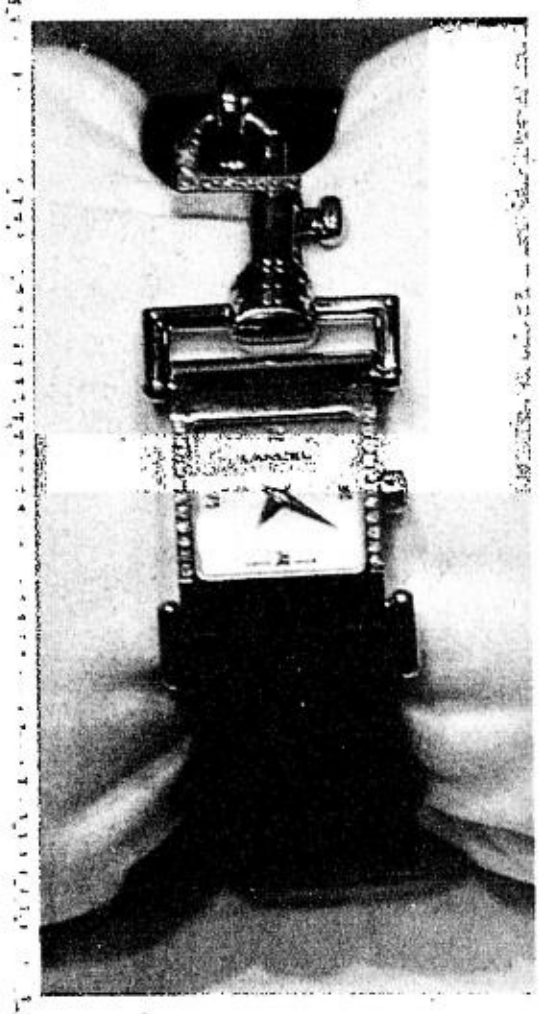
To know more about IPL Photorejuvenation, just call Facial Care Centre at 892-SKIN. That's 892-7546.

Classic watch line sticks to its guns

Text by Cheche V. Moral
Photos by Jim Guiao Punzalan



THE MOSQUETON with the unique snap-hook design with croco-pattern leather strap (above) and set with diamonds (below)



WE'RE BOOMING, AND it's embarrassing to say so," said Olivier Arzel, managing director of Lancel Asia Pacific Ltd.

On a rather hasty Manila visit last week to introduce Lancel wristwatches, Arzel discussed how the luxury brand had been doing in Hong Kong the past couple of years.

Lancel sales in Hong Kong grew 70 percent last year compared to 2003's, he said. It enjoyed a 30-percent increase on the third quarter of the year compared with last year's. Lancel has six stores in Hong Kong. It has 40 more in China. China and Hong Kong are the biggest markets of the French company known for its leathergoods and specialized gift items.

That Lancel is being well received by the Chinese and the rest of Asia may also be the reason for its continued faith in its patrons in the Philippines.

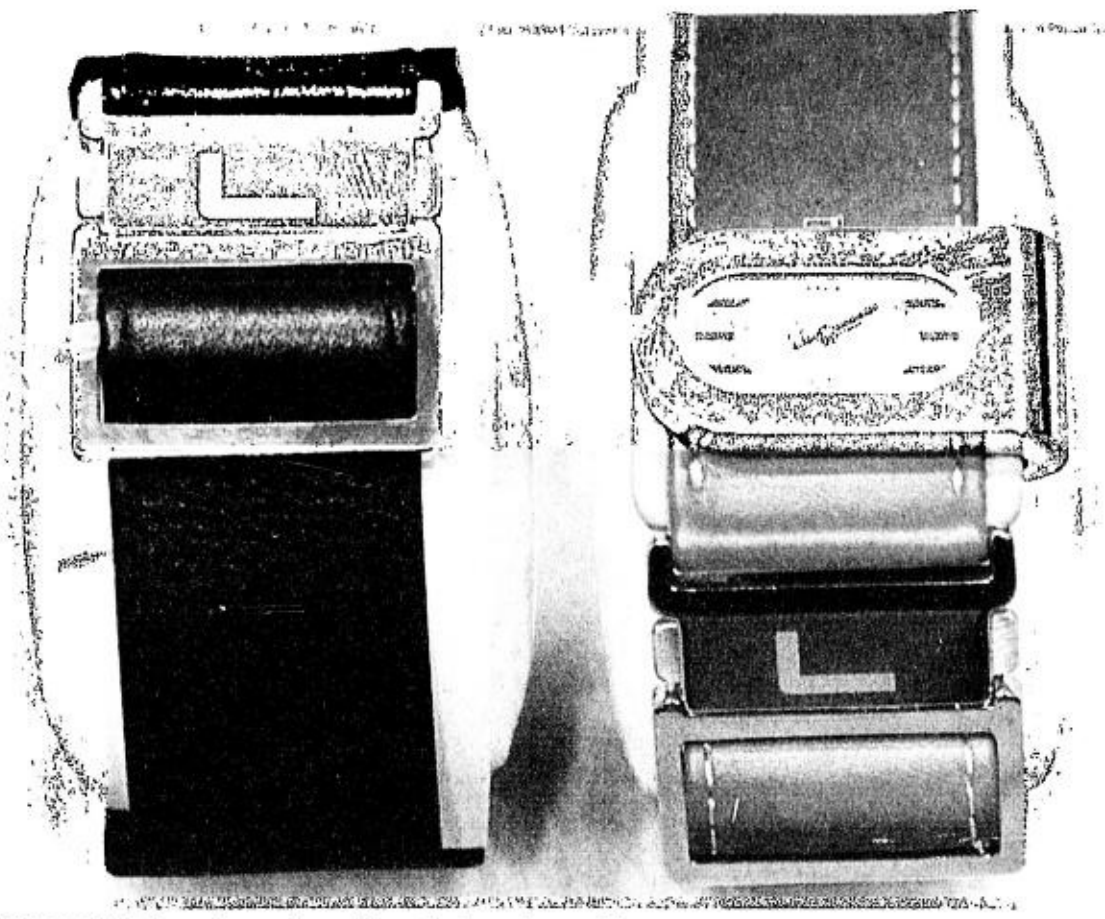
"The Philippines is (a) steady (market)," Arzel noted. Lancel has been in Manila for 10 years, with stores in Shangri-La Plaza Mall in Mandaluyong and in Glorietta 3 in Makati. Its handbags are its top sellers here.

This month, Lancel finally introduces its collection of men's and women's wristwatches, six months after its Hong Kong launch.

Lancel, according to Arzel, is a better-priced addition to luxury brands available to watch aficionados.

Arzel added Lancel's watches are a perfect marriage of fashion and Swiss watchmaking know-how. The watches are designed in Paris and crafted in Switzerland.

Following the brand's design philosophy, the look of Lancel is "classic but à la mode." Lancel handbags and luggage are understated, safe even. But each bears fine little details that distinguish it from other brands. The watches, for instance, have cases shaped like the hardware from its popular bag line.



THE LANCEL Lab can be unclipped from its interchangeable straps.

OLIVIER Arzel

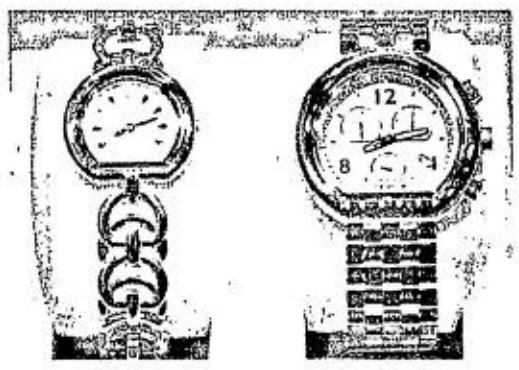
Classic

For its leathergoods, the brand has chosen to keep to its classic, largely utilitarian looks favored by most career men and women. Instead of jumping on the bandwagon of funkier designs to lure a younger clientele, Lancel has stuck to its guns, choosing more affordable alternatives made of canvas.

"We don't want to be vulgar," Arzel said. It seems to be working. Cel Formoso of Riviera Retail Inc., owner of the local franchise, said while their clients still favor the classic looks, they're now opting for the brighter colors, as compared to several years ago when only the blacks and browns were selling.

MEN'S Classic Chrono with three timers

FROM LEFT: Lancel City in black and brown leather straps; gold-plated stainless steel ladies' and men's stainless steel chrono



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Window shopping

It figures

By Shirley Oh and Beia Formoso
Contributors
Photos by Shirley Oh

IT'S ALL ABOUT CAMOUFLAGING, actually. You can get a nipped waist straight out of the 19th century or a boyish figure with a dropped waist circa the roaring '20s. All it takes is the right accent placed on just the right spot, and voilá! What used to be wide now looks thin, and there are curves where there used to be none. Really, isn't that what all good clothes are supposed to do?

Turning Japanese
The wide quarter-sleeves of this obi-like top contrasts with where the wide belt cinches in the waist. Striped top with matching ribbon bow belt, available at Topshop

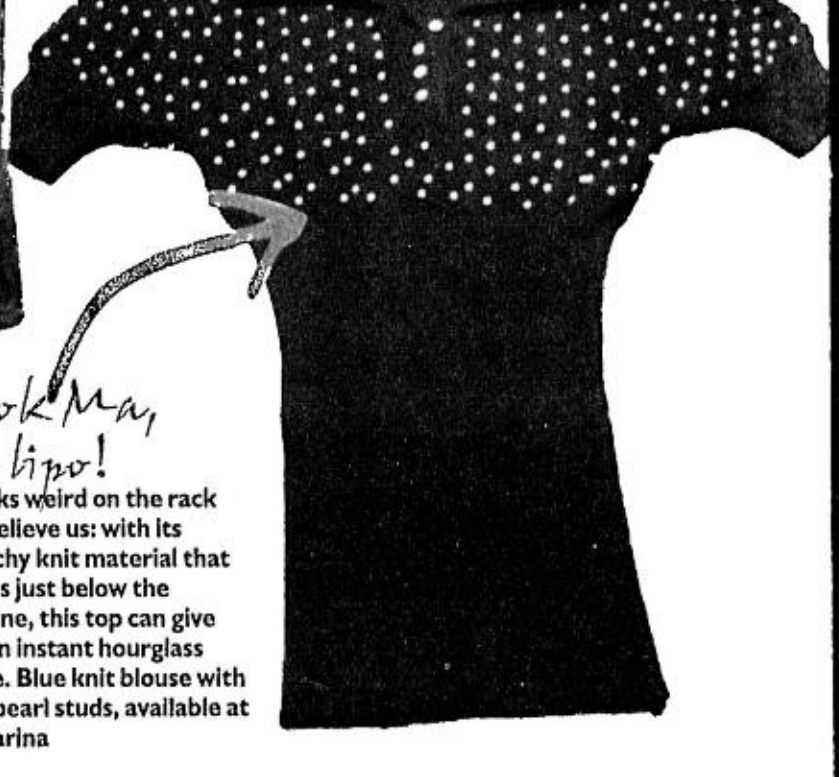
Sleight of hand
Camouflage pudginess donning a loose top tha still has form and structure, thanks to a detailed belt that creat a dropped waist. Belte tunic top, available at Fornarina

It's a cinch
Structured enough to help you keep it all in, but comfortable enough to let you breathe. Beige boned corset, available at Topshop

V is for va-va-voom
Draw the eyes down with the deep V décolletage to where your waistline is noticeably slimmer. Pink wrap top with jeweled waist clasp, available at Fornarina

Optical illusion
Create curves by wearing a bolero that stops short at where your waistline is the trimmest. Green printed bolero, available at Fornarina

ALL PRICES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST. FOR MORE NIFTY FASHION TRICKS, VISIT TOPSHOP AT 2/L ROBINSONS GALLERIA AND FORNARINA AT 2/F THE GATEWAY MALL.



Look Ma, no lipo!
It looks weird on the rack but believe us: with its stretchy knit material that begins just below the bustline, this top can give you an instant hourglass figure. Blue knit blouse with faux pearl studs, available at Fornarina

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

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ograph (above); Classic
of half-round cases with red
er strap (below, left) and ring-
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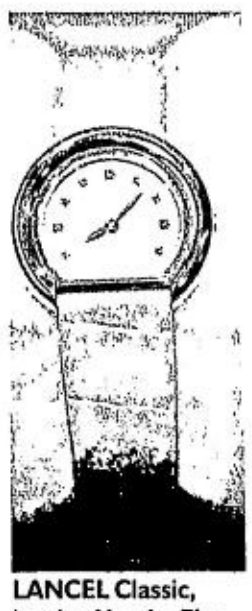


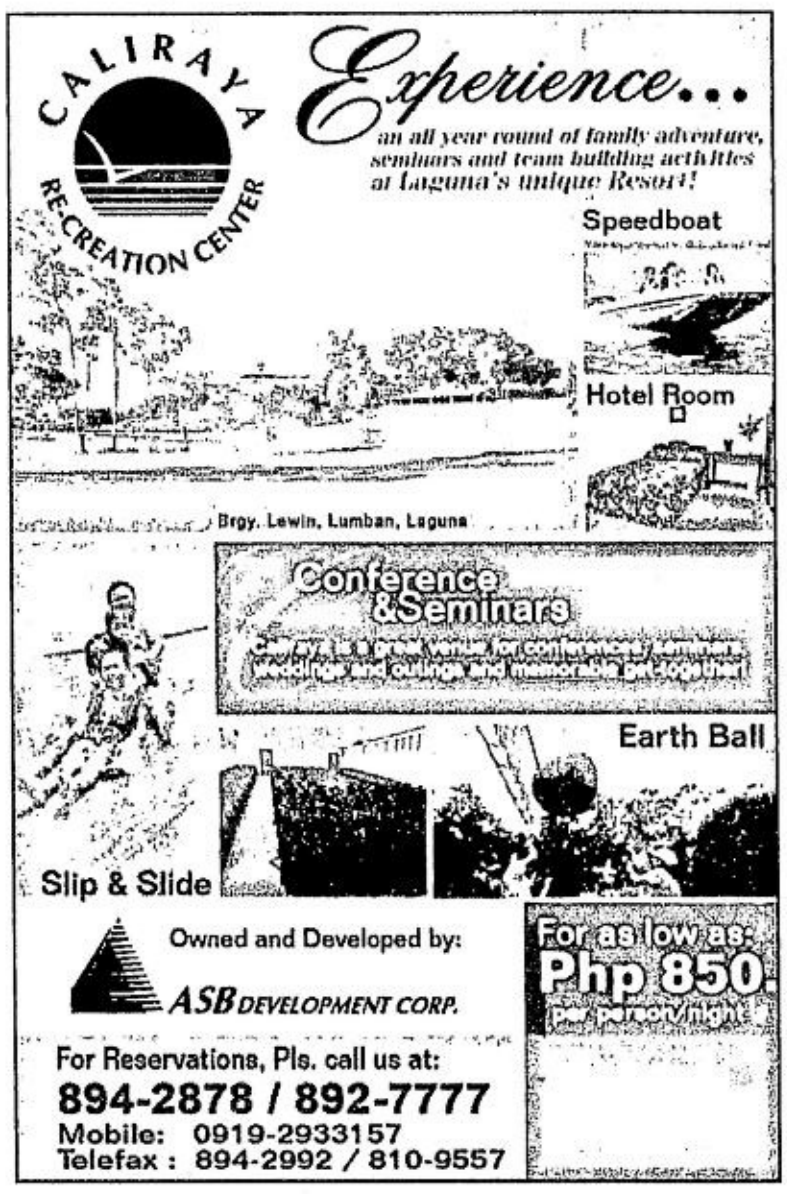
LANCEL Classic, inspired by the Elsa bag

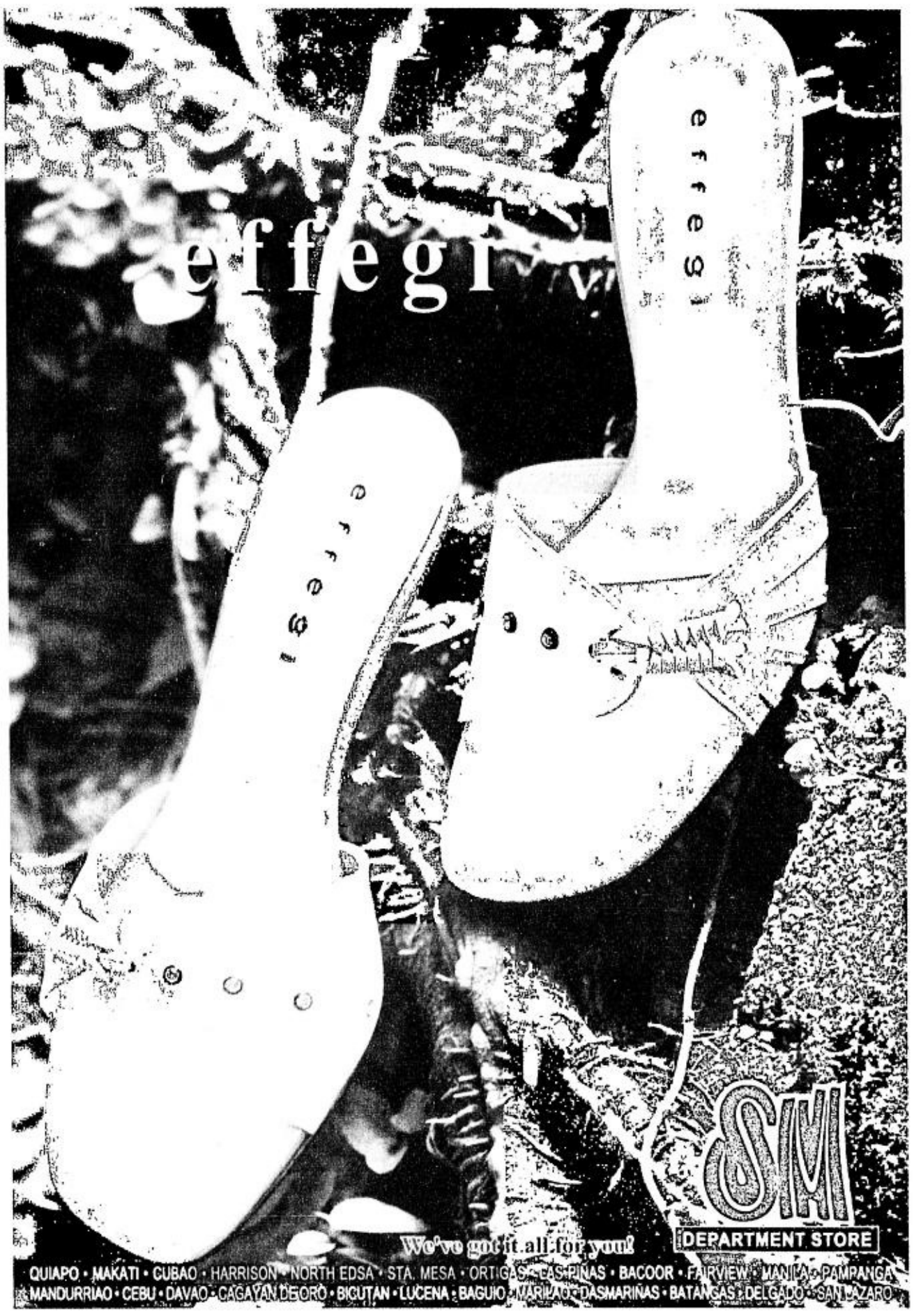
and rubber. The straps can also be worn on their own.

Lancel's more unique design is perhaps the Mosqueton, a rectangular watch that features the snap-hook clasp, which can be worn on the wrist or hung from a chain. This design has adjustable, interchangeable straps in either embossed (croco pattern) or plain, varnished leather. The priciest is set with diamonds.

Lancel is part of Richemont, the watch group that also distributes foremost brands like Cartier, Piaget, Panerai, Baume & Mercier, Dunhill. Lancel watches are the most affordable among the brands under Richemont's wing, said Arzel, and Lancel is targeting first-time buyers of a luxury watch or those who already have a piece or two from the more expensive names and are on the lookout for a fashionable addition.

Lancel watches retail locally from P36,000+ to a high of P100,000+ for the styles set with diamonds.





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REVOLUTIONIZING DENIM WITH THE NEW X-LINE

The letter X has always been used to connote something out of the ordinary, something inexplicable, something that cannot be described by any word one may pick up from the dictionary. It has been used as a prefix in front of the common word for humanity to refer to a team of mortals with extraordinary powers, for example. It has also been used to identify the rebellious, passionate and artistic youth generation of the mid-90's. It's also become part of a byword in the modeling world, used to point to that certain mysterious characteristic that separates supermodels from the rest of humanity.

The creators of Marvel Comics' The X-Men knew it; Douglas Copeland saw the letter's power when he wrote the revolutionary book on the 90's youth titled Generation X; Kate Moss, Claudia Schiffer, Naomi Campbell had that certain something that meant much more than just beauty and height. And young, funky jeans brand Lee knows the power of the letter X, and has put all of it in its new denim line.

The aptly named Lee X-line Denim Series does its own tribute to the letter X, and all it stands for: artistry, creativity, uniqueness, individuality and that little extra something that can't be explained by just any word alone. It is, as its tagline strongly suggests, "a cut apart" from the rest of the denim world.

The revolutionary style of the X-line series, which was born in Japan's and London's fashion houses has become the denim ambassador against the usual boring, commercial denim you see everyday, and this radical stance against conformity is clearly seen in how each X-line jeans pair is made. History and a vision of the future is mixed through "cross bar tacking, "which gives each pair of jeans both funk and functionality; the heavy "Lazy S" pattern found on the spade pocket, bearing the symbolic image of the wild bull's horn, which is now boldly stitched in the warm tones of yellow, gold and navy blue, giving the X-line its distinctive housemark. Stylish pocketing and green rivets also give each X-line pair a unique touch. And just as Lee X-line series is a cut apart from everyone else, the people who fit the X-line personality fit what the letter X connotes in every sense. So lee took to the streets, rounded corners, scaled buildings, and walked through dark alleyways in search of these people who fit the X-line tag: radical, individualistic people who break the monotony of life by expressing their intellect and creativity in every single way they can, and do not allow themselves to be bound by conforming to the norm. Shot as they are, where they are, in their most natural poses, sans art direction, bright lights, and make up and styling. Lee found their X-line ambassadors in artists, musicians, athletes and and even dentists and lawyers, all of whom fit the X-line mold perfectly. You, too, can be part of the Lee X-line revolution. Free yourself from the confines and dictates of conformity and start by choosing the perfect X-line jeans- from Dillon, Roscoe, Freeburn, Seattle & Knox, Maddox and Newel for men, to Leola and Star for women.

Lee X-line

www.lee.com

A CUT APART

All Lee X-line jeans are available at lee boutiques- Glorietta, Robinsons Galleria, Robinsons Place Ermita, Robinsons Metro East Pasig, Festival Mall, Sta. Lucia East Mall, Ever Grand Central, Farmers Plaza and department stores- SM Makati, SM Manila, SM North Edsa, SM Ortigas, SM Southmall, Robinsons Place Ermita, Landmark.

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CALL TOLL FREE 1-800-10-FAKEMED.
A public service ad from the Coalition Against Fake Medicines and Philippine Daily Inquirer.

Elegant masculinity

INSTINCT BY BECKHAM, THE first male fragrance line under David Beckham's name, will soon hit Asia and the Philippines.

"David Beckham is a fascinating personality—the first male celebrity who has successfully crossed the borders of sport and fashion. Indeed, as England football team captain and Real Madrid player, David Beckham is arguably one of the most famous footballers ever, while his own strong, bold fashion style gives him a universal appeal that is truly a global phenomenon," said Bernd Beetz, CEO of Coty Inc., manufacturer and distributor of the fragrance.

This multimillion-dollar endorser is a staple of newspapers, men's magazines, TV advertising and billboards. When trending professional Mark Simpson coined the word metrosexual in 1994, Beckham was seen as the prototype.

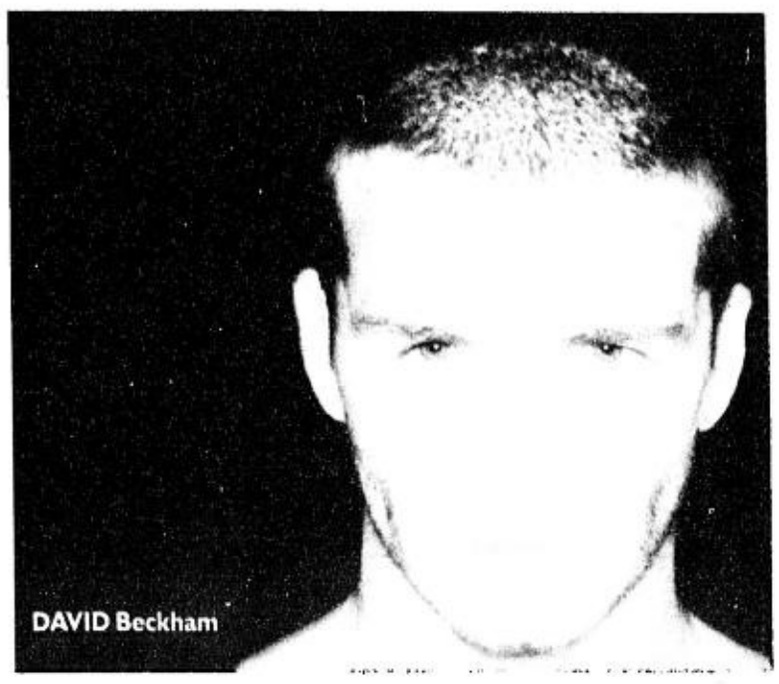
Beckham catapulted to international fame after making one of the most fantastic shoots in world soccer history. Playing under Manchester United against Wimbledon in 1996, Beckham scored a shot from the halfline, which would later go down as the Goal of the Decade for the FA Premier League.

The 6-ft-tall Taurean enjoys almost any cuisine—Italian, Indian, Chinese—yet still craves for good old fish and chips every now and then. He also defines hip and fashionable. Beckham has inspired young people to do away with conventions and be original, as his oft-changing hairdos imply—from the most antiseptic buzzcut to outlandish cornrows and rock-star tresses.

Beckham is also very much comfortable donning upscale, designer fashion, as much as he is at home in street-wear and the diamond-encrusted bling popularized by artists from the hip-hop genre. He created a milestone in men's fashion history when he was spotted wearing a sarong on holiday.

In 2003, Beckham was given a place in the esteemed honors' list of the Order of the British Empire by Queen Elizabeth II herself. It was also in this year when Staffordshire University began offering a university course solely devoted to the study of David Beckham. His work in raising money and awareness for various children's causes has led to his selection as Unicef International Ambassador of Goodwill.

His personal style, his flair and his distinct brand of sportsmanship make David Beckham more than just Mr. Posh. Beckham the athlete, the father and husband, the celebrity, the style icon, has helped redefine and modernize the concept of elegant masculinity as we know it. Now that essence is in his new fragrance, Instinct by Beckham.



DAVID Beckham

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Friday, October 28 and Saturday, October 29
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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 5883, Series of 2005

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SM Manila 700-5423
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DVI
DING VELAYO INC

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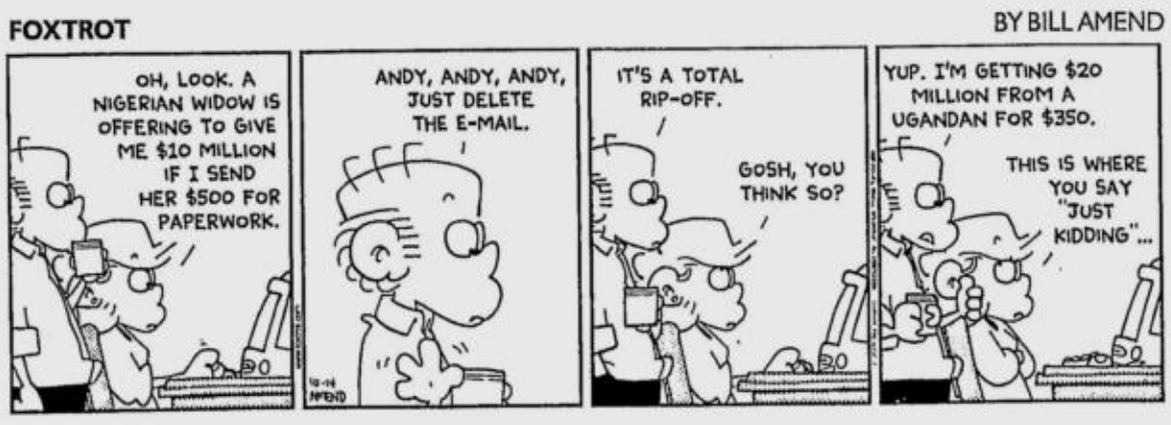
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2005

FOXTROT
BY BILL AMEND



A. LIPIN
BY JESS ABRERA

MARVIN
BY TOM ARMSTRONG

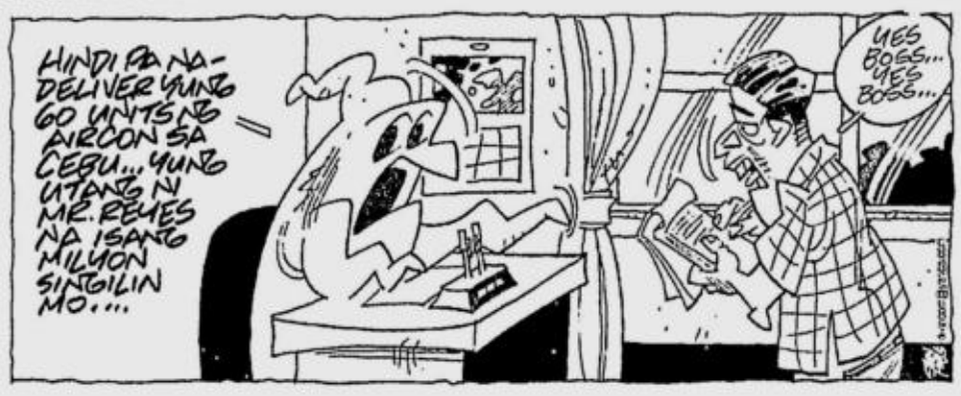
PUGAD BABOY
BY P.M. JUNIOR

BABY BLUES
BY JERRY SCOTT

MUTTS
BY PATRICK McDONNELL

ATOMO AND WEBOY
BY LYRA GARCELLANO

DIVINE COMEDY
BY STEVEN PABALINAS



MAY MGA KALULUWA NA BUMA-BALIK SA MUNDO PARA SA MGA INIWAN NILANG "UNFINISHED BUSINESS"

HOROSCOPE
BY FRANCIS DRAKE

YOU BORN TODAY: You have a fine mind. You love theater and design. Research, science and mathematics are areas where you excel. You can also go into politics. Others admire your stable, balanced character. People depend on you. Work hard to construct something this year for rewards in 2007. You have strong, amazing energy this year! **Birthdate of:** e e cummings, poet; Usher, singer; Ralph Lauren, designer.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19): Travel delays might interrupt you today. Similarly, everything having to do with publishing, the media and higher education receives a jolt or surprise in some way.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): Expect surprises with shared property or money you expect from someone. This could be good news; it could be bad news. You might also find or lose money today. Be careful!

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): People are difficult to deal with today. However, this applies to you as well. Therefore, be patient with loved ones. Avoid arguments.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22): Staff shortages and interruptions at work cause delays today. Don't be demanding of co-workers. It's easy to feel that others are there to serve you now. (They're not.)

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): You want to flirt today. (It's nothing harmful. You just feel like playing and goofing around a bit.) It's good day to enjoy playful activities with children. Expect surprises in sports.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): Be patient with family members today. Others want to do their own thing. It might not agree with you, but what can you do? Be reasonable. (Then others will be reasonable with you.)

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): You want excitement and stimulation today. You're attracted to anything different that is novel and unusual. Everything is a bit bizarre.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Surprise purchases could please you today. (Keep your receipts, just to be safe.) Matters connected with money and possessions are out of your control right now.

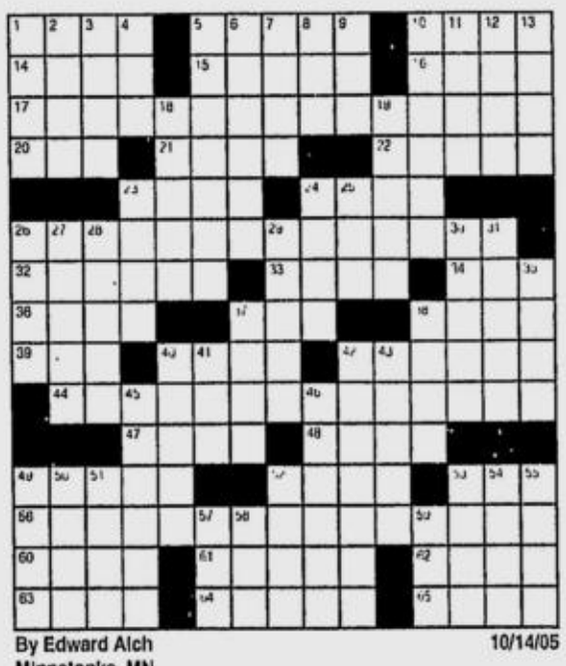
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Existing relationships are difficult to deal with today. In part, you might be impatient with someone. You want different results! The truth is, you have to deal with what you have. Demonstrate grace under pressure.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): At a deep level within you, you feel confused. We all feel confused at times. Just cope as best you can. You are a strong, practical, sensible sign capable of withstanding great adversity.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): Friends and groups surprise you today. You might feel let down. You also feel impulsive and impatient. However, surprising events will take a new turn now.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): You feel impatient with authority figures today. On the other hand, someone with influence could bend the rules in your favor. Be open for whatever opportunity is to come your way.

DAILY CROSSWORD



ACROSS
1 Actress Jessica
5 Autumn bloom
10 Lash mark
14 Greenish blue
15 Physicist Enrico
16 Burn balm
17 Running against Badgers?
20 Grate stuff
21 Columbus location
22 San Francisco ballplayer
23 McGregor of "Trainspotting"
24 Seedless plant
26 Detroit hockey distillation?
32 Foreigners
33 Actor Montand
34 Wager
36 Aunts in Sevilla
37 Gambling cube
38 Destiny
39 __ Diego
40 Bridge
42 Smoky bullet
44 Curing safe-breaker?
47 Prime ranking
48 Assistant
49 South-of-the-border friend
52 Regarding
53 For each
56 Singing president?
60 Saint for sailors
61 __ the pity
62 Russian saint
63 Actor Penn
64 Whitney's partner
65 Hidden valley

DOWN
1 Gillette razor
2 Idyllic meadows
3 "Mass in B Minor" composer
4 The Greatest
5 Crocheted coverlets
6 Closing seams
7 Small group
8 Two in common?
9 Singer Ocasek
10 On the decline
11 "Born Free" lioness
12 Meat cut
13 Camping quarters
18 Situation type
19 Fairy-tale beasts
23 Mothers of lambs
24 Nickel number
25 Compass pt.
26 Sewer pack
27 Inventor Howe
28 Ross or Rigg
29 Contending
30 Taken __ (surprised)
31 Golfer's Mulligan
35 Sales rep's region
37 Copenhagen native
38 Confront
40 Bar seat
41 Wrestling goal
42 Most cliched
43 Heaviest of the noble gases
45 Coral-reef enclosure
46 Costly coffin
49 Top shots
50 Masculine
51 "__ la Douce"
52 Taj Mahal city
53 __-melt
54 Rim
55 Actor O'Neal
57 Little devil
58 Neither's partner?
59 Holiday drink

By Edward Alch
Minnetonka, MN
10/14/05

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

A	D	A	M		A	B	E	L		A	B	Y	S	S
D	E	L	I		L	I	L	I		M	O	O	S	E
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R	I	C	A		S	N	O	O	T		V	A	N	E
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			T	O	M	A	K	E	I	T	L	A	S	T
A	D	I	E	U		S	I	D	E		A	L	T	O
B	E	R	E	T		T	E	A	R		M	E	O	W
S	E	E	M	S		E	L	M	S		A	S	P	S

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10/14/05

MIKROKOSMOS
BY JOMIKE TEJIDO

BEN
BY DANIEL SHELTON

KIKO MACHINE
BY MANIX ABRERA

LOVEKNOTS
BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO

TULDOK
BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING

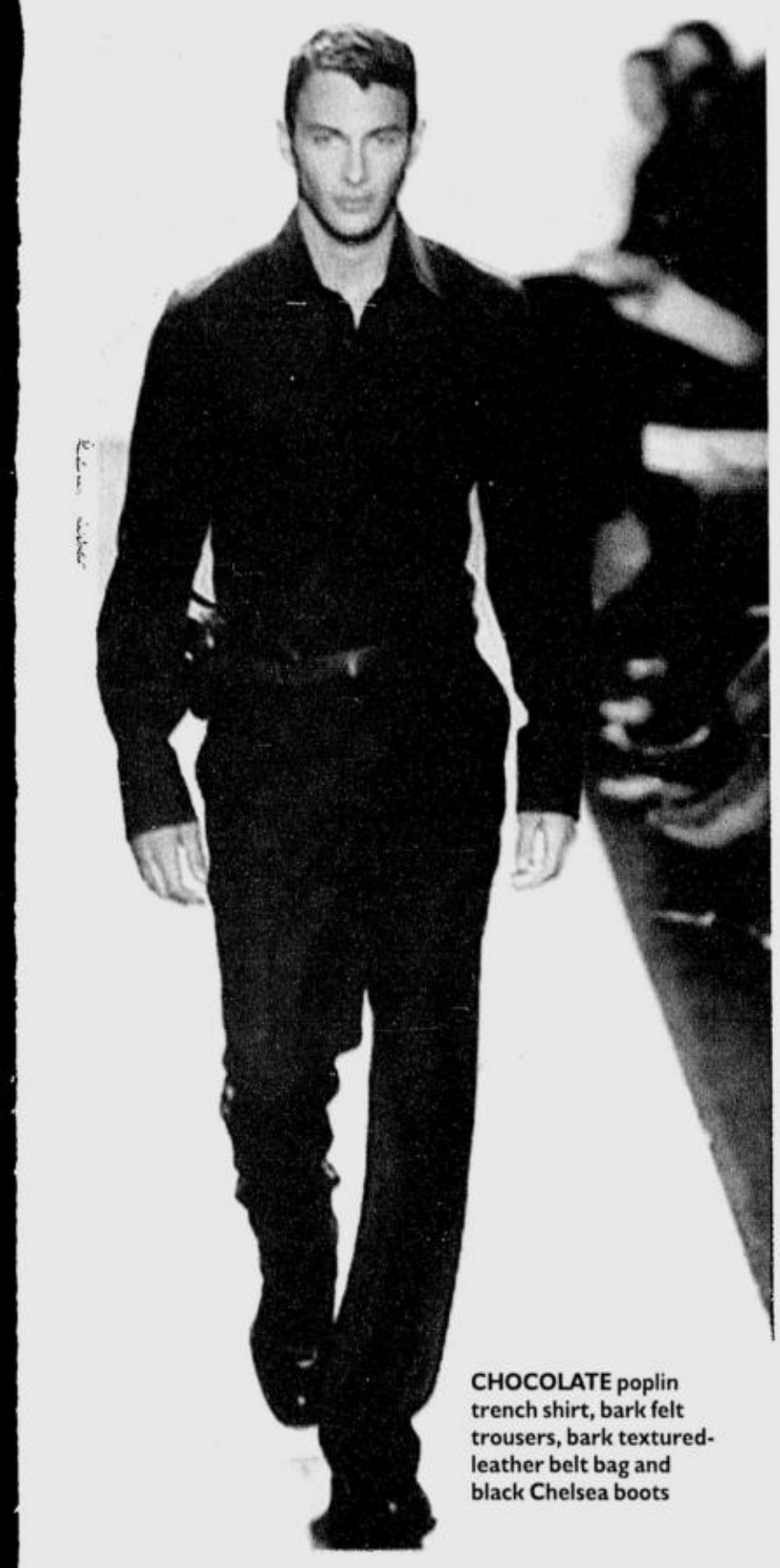
A trendy day in London town

RESTLESS SOULS ARE GETTING A ROYAL treatment this season with Kenneth Cole's Terra collection. In true London skyline shades of white, heather grey and black, Kenneth Cole offers Brighton Rocks, a collection inspired by one of London's most historic rivalries: the Mods vs. the Rockers.

Cole merges the clean-cut cool aesthetic of the Mods with the mean-street masculinity of the resident head-bangers. The end result of this classic ramble is a pub-worthy wardrobe with intoxicating shots of hard cider orange and head-calming blues.

For those who want their style served on a silver platter, KC borrows the pique shirts, overalls, and the estate-chic silhouettes from the ultimate pioneers of prep, the Manor Men, with its equestrienne-inspired "Hippique" collection. The line pits blacks and charcoals with skin-tone camels, pinks and burgundies.

Kenneth Cole New York is exclusively distributed by Stores Specialists, Inc. Shops are located at Greenbelt 3, Power Plant Mall, Commerce Mall-Alabang Town Center, Shangri-La Plaza Mall and Rustan's Makati.



CHOCOLATE poplin trench shirt, bark felt trousers, bark textured-leather belt bag and black Chelsea boots

PLUM nylon reversible duffel coat, felt three-piece suit, dress shirt and silk tie, and bark crocodile lace-up loafers

VICUÑA wool sport jacket, herringbone stitch sweater, ink stovepipe jeans, bark textured messenger bag, bark driving gloves, leather motorcycle jacket

FUNK IT UP! Everything you'll ever need to get that rock star look is here. Including hair and make-up. Jam with us this Oktoberfest!

METROPOLIS STAR ALABANG (850-3845)
Oct 1, Juan Rodrigo & Marri Nallos Mall Tour, 2nd/L
Oct 9, Mark Bautista Album Tour, 4pm, 4th/L
Oct 11, 18, Oktoberfest "Battle of the Bands", 6pm, 2nd/L
Oct 14, Orange & Lemons Album Tour, 6pm, 2nd/L
Oct 15, Evangelism Concert with Gary Valenciano, 4th/L
Oct 15, Karylle Album Tour, 2nd/L
Oct 21, First Note: Voices & Moves, 4th/L
Oct 22, ABS-CBN's Panday Grand Fans' day, 4pm, Trade Hall
Oct 23, United Nations Celebration "The 2005 Global Starkids" 2pm, 4th/L
Oct 28, Indie Music fest acoustic session
Oct 28, Oktoberfest "Battle of the Bands" grand finals, 5pm, 4th/L
Oct 28, Psychic Festival
Oct 30, Halloween Trick or Treat, 3pm, 4th/L
Mondays, Ladies' Night Acoustics @ Mark's bar, 7pm
Wednesdays, Aero Latin Dancing Workshop, Sports Area, 3rd/L
Fridays, Belly Dancing Workshop, Sports Area, 3rd/L

STARMALL EDSA SHAW (718-1886)
Oct 2, Kid's Fun Day Magic Show, 4pm, 2nd/L Activity Area
Oct 8, Mark Bautista Album Tour, 4pm, 2nd/L Activity Area
Oct 9, Orange & Lemons Mall Tour, 4:30pm, 2nd/L Activity Area
Oct 12, 19, Harlem Solo Dance Contest, 4pm, 2nd/L Activity Area
Oct 15, Sugarfree Mall Tour, 4pm, 2nd/L Activity Area
Oct 16, Kid's Fun Day Ceramic Painting by Let's Paint
Oct 22, Rain Promo Tour, 4pm, 2nd/L Activity Area
Oct 23, Kid's Fun Day Halloween Affair, 2pm, 2nd/L Activity Area
Oct 29, Oktoberfest "Indie Music Fest" 6pm, Open Parking
Oct 30, Psychic Festival, 10am, 2nd/L, Activity Area
Thursdays, Aero Latin Dance
Fridays, Latino Nights at Cuba Libre

STARMALL LAS PIÑAS (872-5249)

Monday to Thursday, Acoustic Nights at The Strip, 5pm
Fridays & Saturdays, OKTOBERFEST, 6pm, Parking Lot
Oct 15, 29, Starkids Storytelling at Books for Less, 3PM
Oct 22, GTC Chess Tournament, 9am, 2nd/L Activity Hub
Oct 23, 42nd Psalm Choir Concert, 5pm, Activity Hub
Oct 28, OKTOBERFEST Culminating Night, 7pm, Parking Lot
Oct 30, Halloween Fantasy, 3pm, Activity Hub

Come and see the country's hottest artists and get a chance to win P1 Million nightly!

starmall
Stay awhile.
http://www.starmall.com.ph

Finally, no-ironing pants

DOCKERS gives you an added confidence boost with its Dockers Never Iron Cotton Khaki pants.

THE LATEST INNOVATION from Dockers makes the chore of ironing a thing of the past.

Addressing men's well-known distaste for ironing, the groundbreaking Dockers Never Iron Cotton Khaki is engineered with proprietary state-of-the-art fabric and finishing that give it a "straight-from-the-dry-cleaners" look.

The khaki is made of superior fabric that is smooth and soft to the touch. The excellent drape fabric allows the pants to maintain its just-purchased appearance. Also, the "iron-in" line through the center portion of each pant leg remains permanent through the life of the pants. The result: a pair of pants that always looks neat, sharp and professional without the need for ironing.

The Dockers Never Iron Cotton Khaki pants makes an ideal travel companion. Made of a unique yarn and dipped in special resins, the revolutionary pants gradually straightens itself out when left to hang for a period of time.

Throughout the day, wrinkles and creases on the pants are also minimized due to the wrinkle recovery benefit of the fabric. Packing creases present when the pair of pants is first taken out of its packing box can simply be removed by hanging the pants overnight, no ironing needed.

The pants will be launched with a print advertising campaign themed "Ready to Go." There will be three executions depicting everyday scenarios in the life of the confident globetrotter who's always on the go.

In each, a model smartly dressed in Dockers Never Iron Cotton Khaki is seen impeccably dressed, playing on the point that the pants are ready for wear—freshly pressed and looking great after just being washed, retrieved from a suitcase, or folded in a drawer.

HEAD to the daily grind in style.

The Dockers Never Iron Cotton Khaki is available in two designs—pleated and flat front—and in a variety of practical colors such as stone, midnight, khaki, olive and classic black.

First introduced in 1986 to fill the void between jeans and dress pants, the Dockers brand has expanded from a line of men's khakis to an ensemble brand featuring complete collections of casual pants with complementing tops and accessories.

As the leader in casual business wear, the Dockers brand continues to update and expand its products so that discerning consumers can wear comfortable and stylish clothes that offer versatility at work and play, while expressing their personal style and confidence.

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NO JOINING FEE
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SAVE PhP 5000!
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EASTWOOD CITY	421 4220	ORTIGAS	633 0000
FORT BONIFACIO	819 0000	ROBINSONS METRO EAST	646 0000

Fitness First
www.fitnessfirst.com.ph

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The BMW World

BMW products and services presented in a fun-filled, luxurious atmosphere

BMW PHILIPPINES IS LAUNCHING ONE OF THE BIGGEST CAR events organized by a single car manufacturer in the country. From October 14 to 16, The BMW World will be unveiled, featuring the latest BMW product range, an insight into BMW Aftersales services, BMW Lifestyle items, virtual activities, and innovative BMW Ownership Programs.

BMW Product Range: Diverse characters. Distinctly BMW

The BMW World will showcase the latest BMW cars and motorcycles, which comprise the youngest and widest model range in the luxury segment. On display will be the trendy 1 Series, the dynamic 3 Series, the executive 5 Series, the athletic X3, the spirited Z4 roadster, the confident X5, and the distinguished 7 Series. Each car is exhibited in its own specially designed module, encapsulating the lifestyle that every BMW model represents.

Car enthusiasts can also look forward to a preview of the latest Limited Editions from the BMW model range. A powerful executive sedan in a dynamic business suit -- the new BMW 530i M Sport, will make its debut at The BMW World. The 1 Series, X3 and X5 Sport Editions will also be presented, with specially designed aerodynamic outfits that represent BMW's dynamic character and performance.

To add to this unique product experience, a wide variety of BMW vehicles will be available for customers to enjoy and test drive. In the case of the BMW 7 Series, customers can easily schedule a private viewing and discovery drive at their convenience.

The BMW World will likewise offer comprehensive information on BMW Premium Selection -- BMW's pioneering Certified Pre-Owned Program. After complying with strict criteria and undergo-

BMW/ H2

BMW Philippines
www.bmw.com.ph
Sheer Driving Pleasure

A world to discover.

The BMW World
A BMW Xpo Event

BMW Xpo 2005
October 14 to 16, 2005 9:00 am to 5:00 pm BMW Pavilion Bonifacio Global City, Taguig

BMW Product Range
- Cars
- Motorcycles
- Limited Editions
- Premium Selection

Aftersales
- Service Technology
- Roadside Assistance
- Accessories
- Parts Logistics

Lifestyle
- Kids Mobility
- Virtual Mobility
- BMW Williams F1 Checkered Flag Sale
- Motorrad Riding Gear

Ownership Programs
- Financing options
- Event offers from cooperation partners
- Cash deals
- Trade-ins

AppleCenter Four (4) 1 GB iPod Shuffles to be raffled off daily to visitors of the The BMW World and to guests who pre-register at www.bmw.com.ph.

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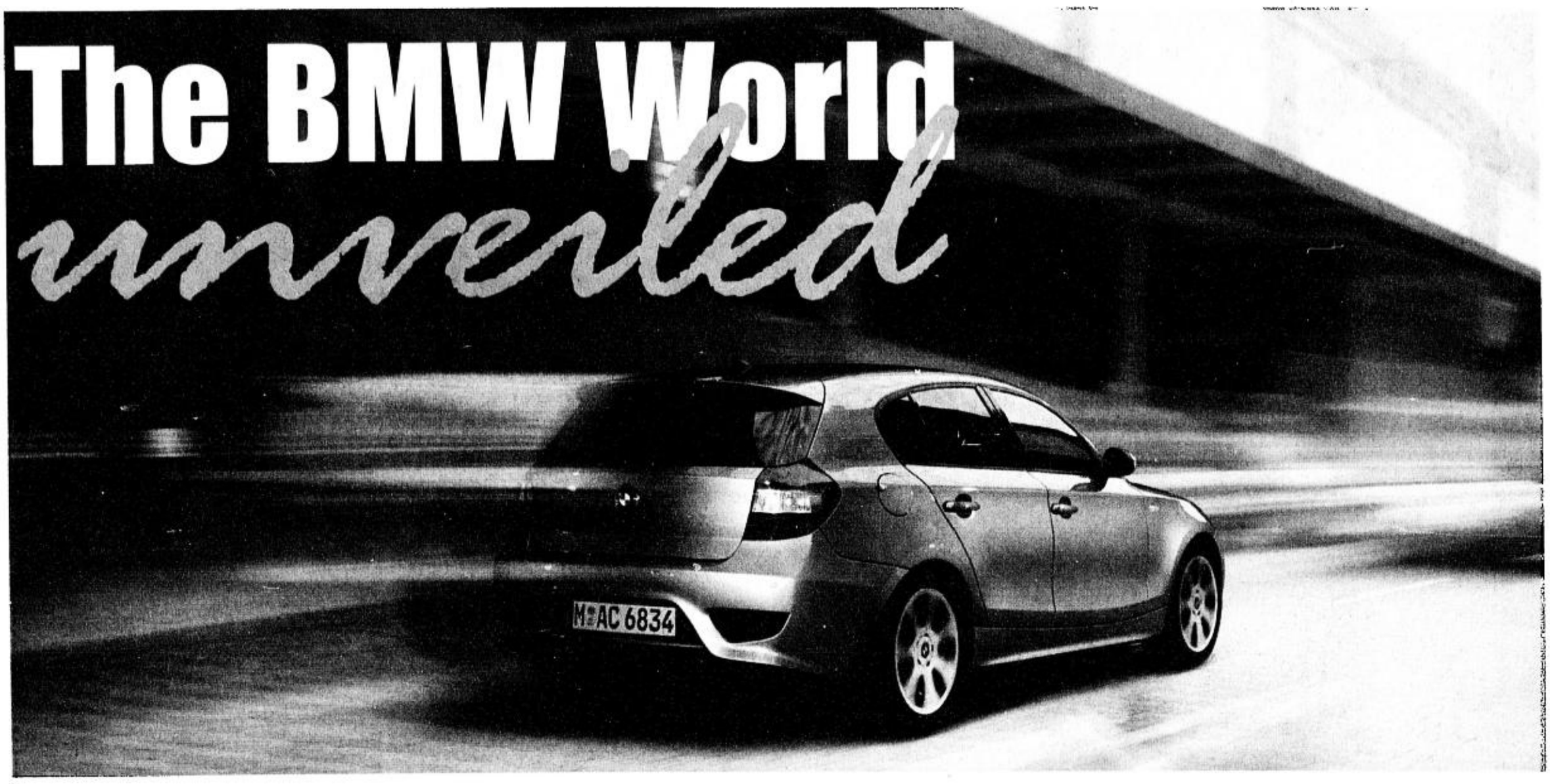
The BMW World *unveiled*



ing an extensive 100-point technical check, vehicles under the Premium Selection are covered with a 12-month or 20,000 kilometer warranty - the only used car warranty issued by a car manufacturer in the Philippine automotive industry.

Customers at The BMW World can have instant access to the complete line of pre-owned BMW cars being offered by all authorized BMW dealers in the Philippines through its Virtual Showroom - an interactive online car finder located at www.bmw.com.ph. With this innovative customer service, prospective BMW owners can conveniently locate their preferred pre-owned vehicle and arrange for a test drive.

Brand new and pre-owned BMW motorcycles will also be available at the BMW World, including the top-of-the-line BMW K 1200 R sport-touring bike and the recently introduced BMW K 1200 S sport bike that offers 167 horsepower. Experienced riders can bring along their riding gear and discover the Sheer Riding Pleasure of BMW motorcycles, as selected BMW Motorrad models will also be available for test rides.

BMW's unique 'Stages of Mobility' at The BMW World offers exciting family activities for children of all ages. An Art Station provides young artists with crayons and line drawings, with a gallery wall where their instant masterpieces will be displayed.

BMW Aftersales Services: Original BMW parts and accessories. Ownership privileges

The enjoyment of BMW ownership will be highlighted at The BMW World, with comprehensive information on BMW Parts Logistics, BMW Assistance Programs, and BMW Aftersales Services. For instance, an informative display featuring a computerized car tester connected to a BMW car demonstrates the technologically advanced equipment available at all authorized BMW dealerships for efficient vehicle maintenance and repair.

Those seeking to further individualize their BMW vehicles can virtually install the latest BMW accessories through the Car Configurator, which then provides an instant preview of the personally designed vehicle. A new BMW 3 Series specially fitted with the latest M Sport aerodynamic outfit and other car accessories additionally presents the wide variety of possibilities that BMW provides as an expression of personal mobility.

BMW Lifestyle: Kids Mobility, fun-filled family activities, and F1 items

BMW's unique "Stages of Mobility" at The BMW World offers exciting family activities for children of all ages. An Art Station provides young artists with crayons and line drawings, with a gallery wall where their instant masterpieces will be displayed. Likewise, kids can have fun with radio controlled BMW toy cars, and experience their first taste of Sheer Driving Pleasure with BMW Kids' Mobility cars. Children can also pose in front of "My First BMW" studio wall and have their photos taken and instantly printed as a souvenir.

Teenagers and adults alike, on the other hand, can experience the thrill of virtually driving the latest BMW models such as the fascinating M5, through a simulator with a seat console, steering wheel and control pedals connected to a video game system.

BMW Motorsport fans can take advantage of

preferential prices being offered on Formula One lifestyle items through the "Chequered Flag Sale" at the BMW World. Various items such as jackets, shirts, and other F1 collectibles will be available to commemorate the success of the BMW WilliamsF1 team that won numerous Grand Prix Championships through the years.

BMW ownership options

Customers can benefit from special event offers and easy ownership options, such as personalized

BMW/ H4

THE BMW 530i M Sport will be unleashed at the BMW World in Bonifacio Global City, from October 14 to 16.

BMW introduces the new 530i M Sport

Executive arrival in a dynamic business suit

THE ADVANCED DESIGN AND ENGINEERING of the BMW 5 Series offers a balance of business class luxury with superb driving dynamics. Now, BMW introduces its latest variant that tips the scale towards dynamism and sportiness: the new BMW 530i M Sport.

M Sport package: Aerodynamic and aesthetic

Bearing the M badge that represents thrilling motorsport design and performance, the new BMW 530i M Sport comes with a specially designed aerodynamic outfit that is tailored to the car both in style and function. The front apron projects an undeniably muscular statement while supplying more air to the engine with its integrated and enlarged air intakes. The sleek front spoiler lips, on the other hand, reduce lift coefficients resulting in further improved driving stability at high speeds.

The low, wide side sills emphasize the length and width of the car for a more dynamic appearance while optimizing air routing in the underbody, thereby adding to the superb driving qualities of the vehicle. At the same time, the rear diffuser and flaps improve the airflow across the underbody for an excellent drag coefficient leading to added driving stability. A chrome exhaust tip is likewise provided for enhanced aesthetics.

Alloy wheels with run-flat technology

To complete the vehicle's sporty stance, the new 530i M Sport comes with 18" star spoke mixed-size alloy wheels (front: 245/40 R18, rear: 275/35 R18). The slightly wider rear wheels not only provide a more muscular look, but likewise enhance the road holding characteristics of the vehicle.

Fitted with run-flat tires, the high performance alloy wheels allow a driver to continue safely on his journey even with one or more tire punctures. This is due to the special reinforcement panels on the side walls that "prop up" the run-flat tire even when it's completely deflated. Due to this innovative design, a 530i M Sport with fully deflated runflat tires can still continue to move safely at a maximum speed of 80 km/h for as far as 50 to 150 kilometers depending on its load.

Run-flat tire technology puts an end to dangerous and dreaded situations like having to change a tire on a busy road, in a tunnel, in the pouring rain, or at night in deserted locations. And since the 530i M Sport with runflat tires has no need for a spare, vehicle load is minimized thereby contributing to improved performance and fuel economy.

The runflat tires of the BMW 530i M Sport work in consonance with its innovative runflat indicator located on the onboard monitor. With this technological feature, the car's computer system is able immediately spot any loss of air pressure. The driver is then alerted via a warning display to allow him to react accordingly.

Refined power: 3-liter inline six-cylinder engine

The captivating aesthetics of the 530i M Sport foretell the refined power that lies under the hood: an inline six-cylinder engine that produces 231 horses and 300 Nm of torque. This output results in an acceleration time of 7.1 seconds from 0 to 100 kilometers per hour (kph), while still delivering a thrifty fuel consumption of 7.02 kilometers per liter of gasoline.

The powerful yet smooth performance of the 530i M Sport can be attributed to a whole range of advancements in engine technology, such as the installation of four computer-controlled valves per cylinder for superior cylinder management, as well as highly advanced computer-controlled oxygen sensors to virtually eliminate engine knock.

Active Steering for agility and control

To keep its engine's power under easy control, the 530i M Sport comes with BMW's multi-awarded Active Steering, which automatically adjusts the steering ratio for based on the vehicle's speed. At slow speeds, an electric motor-controlled gearbox within the steering column operates in the same direction as the steering angle, thereby increasing wheel turn with minimal effort. This makes it easy for the driver to maneuvre the sizable 5 Series in tight situations, for instance, while parallel parking. On the other hand, the motor runs counter to the steering direction at high speeds, thereby decreasing the angle of wheel turn. This makes the 530i M Sport very controllable and agile during fast turns and on zigzag roads.

Philippine premiere at the BMW World

The new BMW 530i M Sport will be unveiled at the BMW World located at the BMW Pavillion, Bonifacio Global City from October 14 to 16. The BMW World offers an innovative and interactive experience of BMW ownership and lifestyle - featuring its comprehensive range of products and services in the country. Interested guests may register and find out more information about this first-of-its-kind event at www.bmw.com.ph.

Premiere privileges at The BMW World

Diners Club offers 200K Xmas spree for BMW X3 and X5 buyers

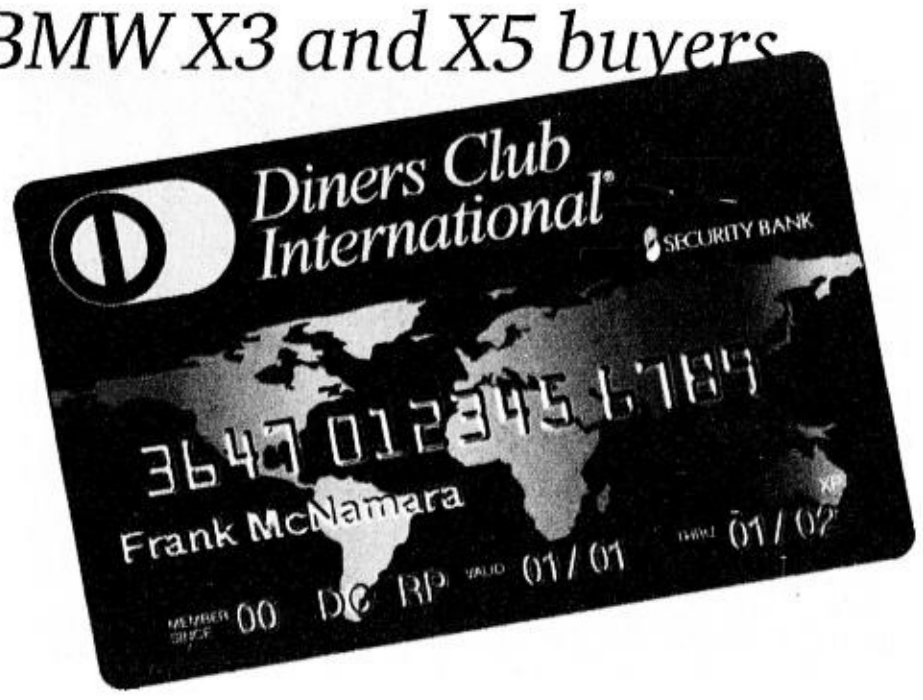
DINERS CLUB INTERNATIONAL, IN cooperation with BMW Philippines, will launch an exclusive program that leads to ultimate rewards and 'Sheer Driving Pleasure'.

Starting October 14, 2005, Diners Club Cardholders can conveniently use their credit card to make full or partial payment for a brand new BMW, and in the process, earn Club Rewards points that they can use to redeem a variety of premium gift items and airline miles. Depending on the BMW model purchased and the amount charged to their card, Diners Club cardholders can redeem enough airline miles for a free round-trip flight to Europe or to the destination of their choice.

In addition, Diners Club cardholders who purchase a brand new BMW X3 or X5 (with the exception of Sport Editions) will have P200,000 credited to their account as an exclusive benefit. As such, cardholders who take up this offer can effectively take their brand new Sport Activity Vehicle to go on an early Christmas shopping spree for as much as P200,000 courtesy of Diners Club -- and in the process, earn even more Club Rewards points with every purchase.

This unique and exciting offer, which is valid until November 30, 2005, will be launched at The BMW World from October 14 to 16 at the BMW Pavillion, Bonifacio Global City. Diners Club is extending an invitation to all its cardholders to visit this event, to discover the comprehensive range of BMW products and services in the country, as well as to enjoy the combined privileges of BMW ownership and Diners Club card membership.

Diners Club cardholders can likewise take advantage of this BMW X3 and X5 Xmas spree at all authorized BMW dealers in the country, namely Autozentrum BMW (Alabang), Prestige Cars BMW (Makati), Autohaus BMW (Quezon City), Premier BMW (Pampanga), and Performance BMW (Cebu).



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BMW Arrivals

ORIGIN	DRIVE	STATUS
7 Series		DISTINGUISHED ARRIVAL
6 Series		GENTLEMANLY ARRIVAL
5 Series		EXECUTIVE ARRIVAL
3 Series		DYNAMIC ARRIVAL
1 Series		TRENDY ARRIVAL
X5		CONFIDENT ARRIVAL
X3		ATHLETIC ARRIVAL
Z4		SPIRITED ARRIVAL

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BMW launches Virtual Showroom

For a convenient and comprehensive search of pre-owned BMWs

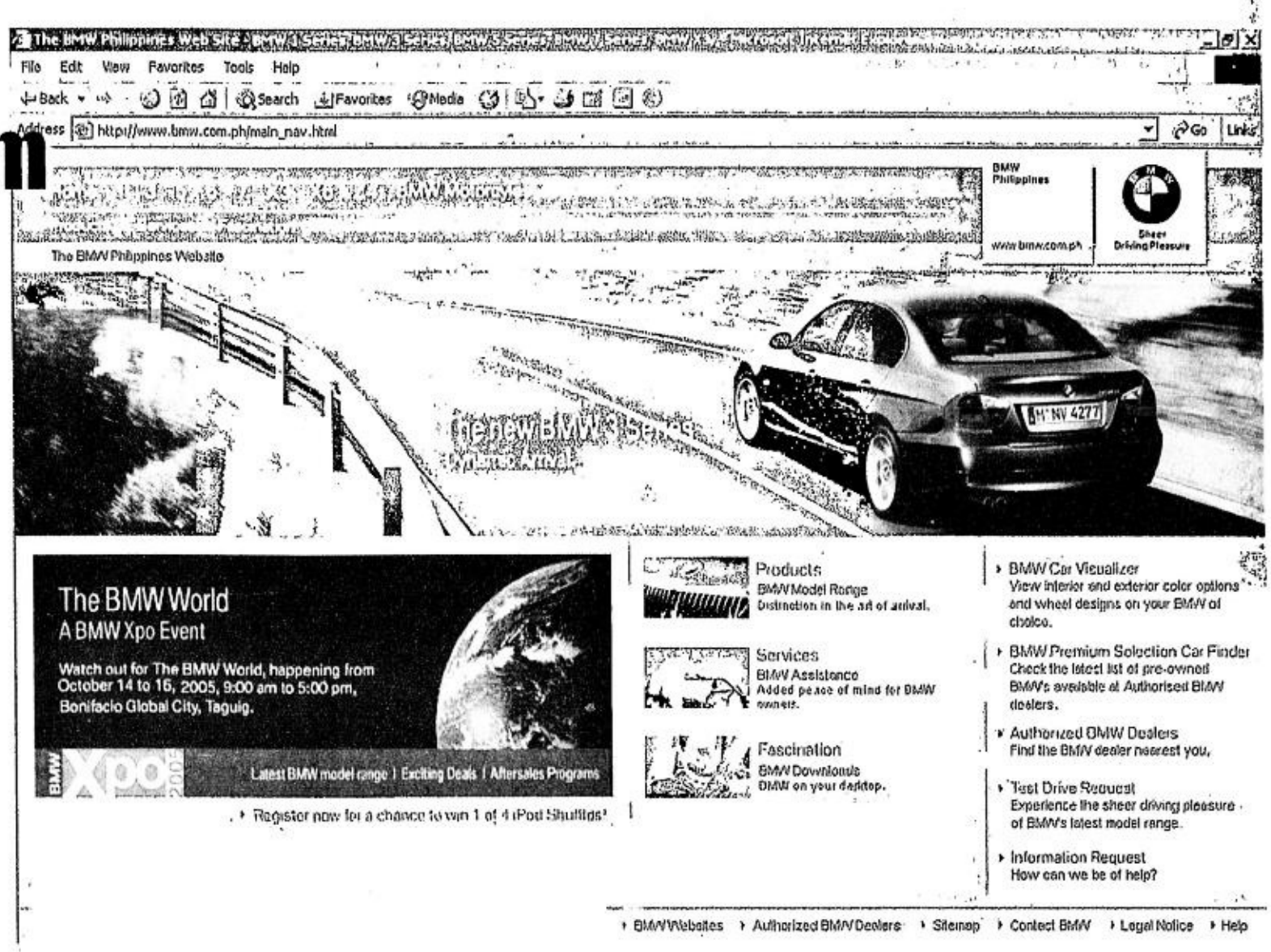
BMW PHILIPPINES INTRODUCED an innovation in the luxury used car segment with its pioneering Certified Pre-Owned Program, the BMW Premium Selection. Offering benefits such as a comprehensive 100-point technical check and a 12 month or 20,000 kilometer warranty, the BMW Premium Selection Program now includes a wide selection of pre-owned vehicles available in authorized BMW dealers.

As a further advancement in its used car program, BMW Philippines is unveiling a new showroom - one that is practically accessible 24 hours of the day: the new BMW Premium Selection Virtual Showroom.

This latest service offers a convenient method in searching and selecting a pre-owned BMW. The BMW Premium Selection Virtual Showroom features an Online Car Finder that lists comprehensive information on pre-owned BMWs and BMW Premium Selection vehicles presently available in authorized dealerships. Interior and exterior photos for each vehicle are also easily accessible, together with information such as mileage, colours and price.

For further convenience, the website offers a search function that is able to streamline choices by specifying factors such as price range, model, or location. The authorized BMW dealer can then be easily contacted to arrange for a test drive once the choice has been made.

Located at www.bmw.com.ph, the BMW Premium Selection Virtual Showroom allows BMW enthusiasts to spend less time searching -- and more time enjoying, the vehicle of their choice.



BMW Warranty and Assistance

Peace of mind on and off the road

BMW Assistance

BMW PRESENTLY OFFERS THE widest and youngest model range in the luxury car segment. Each BMW features diverse designs and performance characteristics, every model in the range delivers 'Sheer Driving Pleasure' with its quality and premium product substance.

To add to the advantages provided by BMW vehicles in terms of safety and performance, every owner of a brand new BMW vehicle purchased from an authorized dealer in the Philippines also receives the extra peace of mind offered by BMW Warranty and BMW Assistance.

BMW Warranty Coverage - Certified quality

BMW's new vehicle warranty grants customers the right of repair for as long as two years after purchase. As such, for an unlimited mileage during this 24-month period, any defective components as confirmed by an authorized BMW dealer will be replaced free of charge.

All brand new BMW vehicles are also delivered with a 12-year Body and Anti-Corrosion Warranty, which warrants that the vehicle will be free from any body panel rust perforation under normal use and service. The new vehicle's paintwork, on the other hand, is covered for as much as 3 years against blistering, discoloration, or staining which may occur as a result of defective manufacturing or materials.

Complete information on BMW Warranty is detailed in the Owner's Handbook provided in all BMW vehicles.

BMW Assistance - Premium service one phone call away

Every brand new BMW vehicle includes 2-year BMW Assistance, providing owners access to various vehicle and customer services on and off the road, depending on the BMW model purchased.

The BMW Assistance starts with Roadside Assistance, which offers expert service in case of emergency situations. Besides basic towing service, a BMW Servicemobile is just a phone call away for BMW owners, to perform minor on-site service support such as tire changing and gasoline delivery. This program assures owners that their roadside emergency needs are covered, further enhancing their BMW ownership experience.

Concierge Services are additionally available to owners of higher positioned BMW models. In this case, personal assistants may be contacted through the BMW Assistance Hotline to make hotel and restaurant reservations, or book teetimes at any major golf course in the country. Concierge services also include the reservation of choice seats for concerts and theater performances, and the delivery of flowers and gifts as requested.

Owners of brand new BMW 7 Series vehicles receive the additional safety benefit of Domestic Medical Assistance. In case BMW owners encounter any accidents while using their vehicle, medical assistance is immediately available to transport them by land - or by air if necessary, to receive the appropriate medical attention.

Peace of mind comes with every BMW

BMW is recognized to build safe, reliable, high performance cars that deliver 'Sheer Driving Pleasure'. This enjoyment of ownership is further enhanced by BMW Warranty and BMW Assistance, which offers peace of mind on and off the road.

The BMW World commences

and flexible financing terms made possible through BMW Financial Services in cooperation with Security Bank.

Diners Club International, on the other hand, will launch a first-of-its-kind offer at The BMW World for its cardholders. Diners Club members and Diners Club Premiere Cardholders can conveniently use their credit card to make the full or partial for a brand new BMW, and in the process, earn reward points that they can redeem for a variety of premium products and services. In addition, Diners Club members who purchase a brand new BMW X3 or X5 Sport Activity Vehicle (with the exception of Sport Editions) will have P 200,000 credited to their account as an exclusive benefit.

The BMW World awaits

The BMW World event takes place from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., October 14 -16 at the BMW Pavillion, Bonifacio Global City. Customers can enjoy the BMW World experience from Friday to Sunday, and have the chance to win iPod Shuffles that will be raffled off daily. Likewise, guests who pre-register online at www.bmw.com.ph also have a chance to receive a free iPod Shuffle.

The BMW World is made possible through the cooperation of Security Bank, Diners Club International, Apple Center, HP Photo Printers, and Rene Barbier Wines. Digital video experience at The BMW World is provided by the Listening Group of Companies.

BMW Philippines
Sheer Driving Pleasure

The BMW World: A BMW Xpo Event

Powered by Apple
AppleCenter

Photo printing from HP Photo Printers
hp invent

Digital video experience from Digital Cinema In Style
Listening Group Of Companies

Premium Brand Products from Store Specialists, Inc.
Stores Specialists, Inc.
Your World. Your Lifestyle.

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PAREB Real Estate Journal

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There are 26 letters in the alphabet, but when it comes to real estate, none is more recognizable than

The right to use the term REALTOR® in the Philippines, pertains exclusively only to regular members in good standing of the PHILIPPINE ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® BOARDS (PAREB).

REALTOR® is a service mark registered in the Commission of Patents of the United States of America as Document No. 515199 and in the Philippine Patent Office as Document No. 5385, as property of the National Association of REALTORS® Boards, now known as the National Association of REALTORS® or NAR.

NAR has conferred upon PAREB since 1960,the authority to use the REALTOR® term and trademark.

No other real estate broker or service practitioner or real estate organization in the Philippines may use the term REALTOR® other than regular members in good standing of PAREB who subscribe to a Code of Ethics. And it must be used only to denote membership to PAREB, a duly affiliated organization of NAR-USA.

NAR's recent victory in defeating a legal challenge to the uniqueness of the REALTOR® trademark is a timely reminder that the terms REALTOR® and REALTORS® aren't synonymous with generic terms, such as "real estate practitioner" or "real estate agent or broker."

45 years of service to the Philippine real estate industry

The countdown to PAREB's golden year commences

The dedication to the highest standards of professional real estate service has been the driving force for the continued existence of the Philippine Association of REALTORS® Boards, Inc. (PAREB) as it approaches the threshold of its golden year. Formally organized on May 15, 1960, PAREB is the oldest and the largest real estate service organization in the country having established more than 60 local boards in its 45 year history, 40 of which remain active boards, with 15 pending reactivation and new boards in unchartered territorial jurisdictions being organized.

Since its inception, PAREB had been the only consultative body of the national government on real estate matters up until the 1980s, an era that bears homage to PAREB's success in increasing the number of real estate service practitioners in the country and the expansion of the real estate industry to its allied sectors by conducting, in partnership with the government, seminars, publications, reviews and licensure examinations

Please turn to page 4

PAREB and NAR presidents meet at Asia-Pacific Real Estate Congress

Bobby Sy, Al Mansell and VV Soliven

PAREB has earned international recognition for its pioneering efforts in professionalizing the real estate service practice and holds the distinction for more than four decades now of being the exclusive international affiliate organization in the Philippines of the National Association of REALTORS® as embodied in an agreement signed as early as Nov. 2, 1960 and in a supplemental international affiliate agreement signed in Nov. 12, 1990.

At the Asia-Pacific Real Estate Congress (APREC) held Sept. 28-30 in Osaka, Japan, PAREB president Bobby Sy and NAR president Al Mansell met in person for the first time. PAREB annually sends a Philippine delegation to NAR's

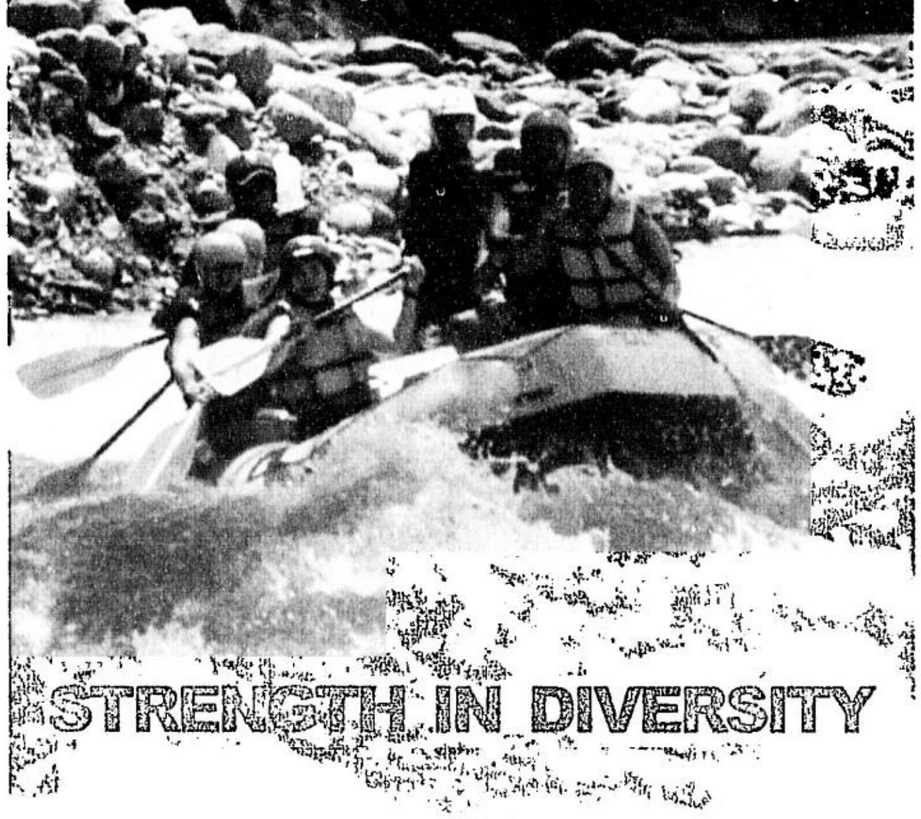
Please turn to page 6

PHILIPPINE ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® BOARDS, INC.

45th ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION

October 13 - 15, 2005

Cagayan de Oro City, Misamis Oriental, Philippines



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visit:
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Real Estate Journal

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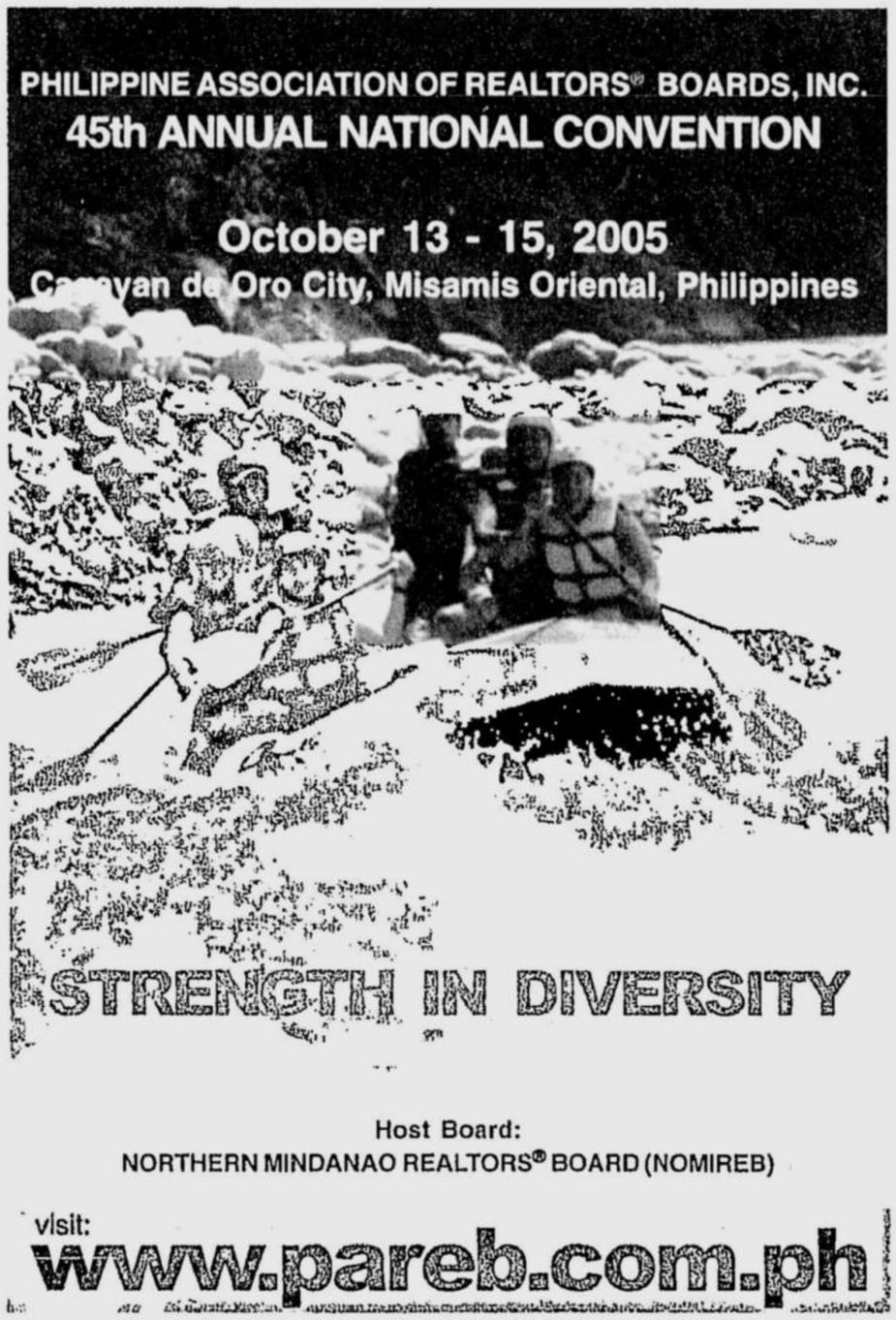

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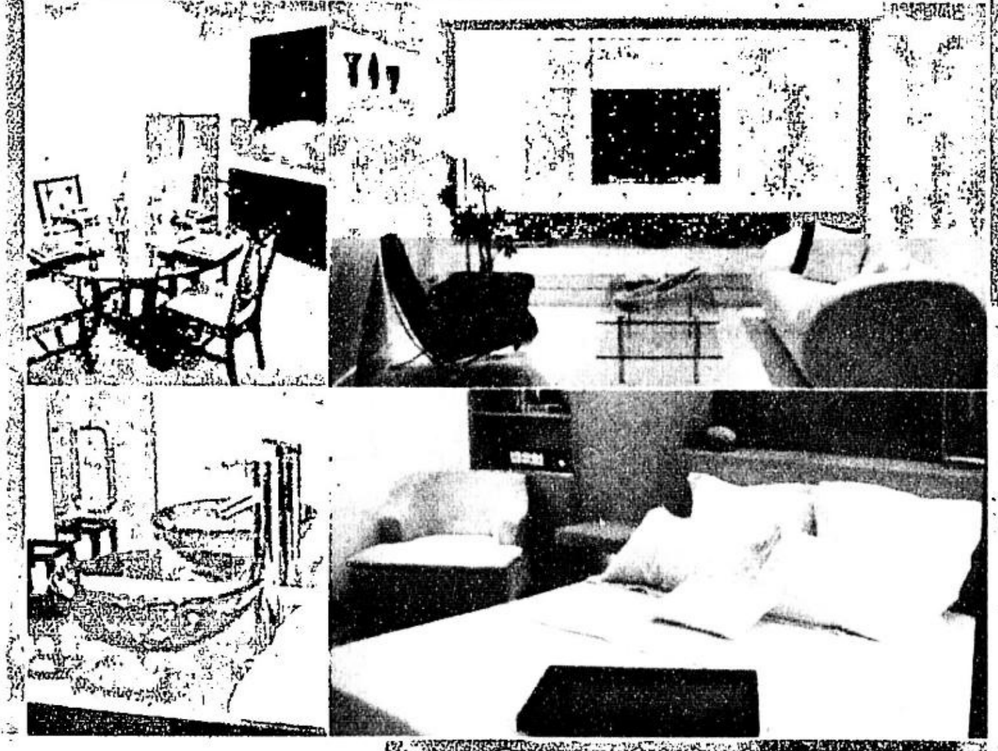

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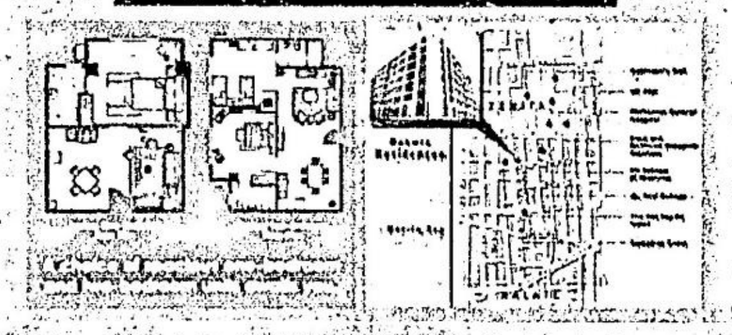

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HLURB License to Sell No. 10467

SOUTHPEAK: Combining the Warmth of the country, with the luxury of the city.

An expansive 55-hectare community in the heart of San Pedro, Laguna, SOUTHPEAK offers that perfect mix of the countryside lifestyle with urban comforts and conveniences. Its rolling terrain and high altitude contributes to the refreshing breezes that makes living here such a relaxing experience. More than its balmy weather, the community offers panoramic views of Laguna de Bay, giving you a picturesque scene every day.

Only ten minutes drive away from Alabang via the new San Pedro Exit and the Daang Hari national road, living here gives you a quick and easy access to business, educational, health and leisure centers. Going to work at the Filinvest Corporate City is now a breeze. Parents have a choice of sending their children to Brent International School, La Salle Zobel or St. Benedict. Need a quick checkup? Take your pick from the first-class medical services of Asian Hospital or the Ospital ng Muntinlupa. And for great shopping finds, head off for the sprawling Festival Supermall or the Alabang Town Center.

The easy accessibility to SOUTHPEAK is also assured by the road widening of Magsaysay Road, the main road leading to the community. Now a 4-lane thoroughfare, it has created a smoother, faster way home.

Enhancing the charms of SOUTHPEAK are its amenities. You can look forward to socializing with friends, family and neighbors in the community clubhouse or make a splash in the swimming pool. Sporty types can take to the basketball and tennis courts, while the young ones can play to their hearts' content in the playground. Outdoor fun is made more enjoyable in the manicured picnic grounds and barbecue park.

SOUTHPEAK offers open lots with areas ranging from 132 to 1,000 sqm. Apart from lots, you can also choose from the Tudor Belle and Tudor Bianca house and lot packages. Tudor Belle, with its 126 sqm floor area, offers

Tudor Bianca

Tudor Belle

a cozy home choice for starter families. Tudor Bianca is more expansive at 166.7 sqm, making it a perfect fit for growing families.

But if you want a quaint country home, there is Country Daphne, a 161 sqm model house at THE MANORS, an enclave inside SOUTHPEAK. THE MANORS offers house and lot packages, with lots ranging from 130 sqm. to 308 sqm. And, like its mother community, THE MANORS enjoy the same country theme, easy accessibility and spectacular view of Laguna.

Now, it is easy for you to have your very own SOUTHPEAK or THE MANORS home! Come and visit us during our Grand Open House on October 16, from 9:00 am onwards. If you're an existing lot owner, you can enjoy a 5% discount when you buy a new lot.

So come and visit SOUTHPEAK. And see yourself basking in its balmy country atmosphere while luxuriating in the lap of its city conveniences.

Actual Daphne house model - 161 sqm. usable floor area

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45 years of service ...

from page 1

to promote professional real estate service practice. It is to PAREB's credit that public awareness for professional real estate service has been created leading to the increase in the number of licensed realty service practitioners in the late '70s and in the expansion of the real estate industry to its allied sectors in construction, real estate development and real estate education.

Track record in regulation

PAREB traces its beginnings to the year 1938, almost 67 years past. The year was when its first charter member board was organized as the Manila Realty Board and also the year when the rules and regulations to govern the licensing of real estate service practitioners in the Philippines known as Commerce Administrative Order No. 3-C was promulgated by the Department of Commerce and Industry. Largely due to the efforts of the founders of the Manila Realty Board, who started drafting as early as 1923, what was to become the country's original licensing mandate for realty practitioners, paving the way for the the promulgation of Ministry Order No. 39 in 1985 – the present day regulatory legislation for real estate service practice in the Philippines. To this day, PAREB continues to take a pro-active stand in the regulation of the service with keen interest against the **proliferation of unlicensed realty service practitioners. And to this end, PAREB** maintains a close working relationship with the Department of Trade and Industry having direct representation in the Committee for Real Estate Brokers Examination which administers the licensure of real estate brokers. It has, in fact, successfully prescribed certain standards for real estate service practice in the country. PAREB has evolved as a principal stakeholder in congressional committee deliberations in the Philippine Senate and the House of Representatives in connection with proposed legislations affecting real estate and has in various instances submitted regulatory proposals that have found its way in congressional house bills set for deliberation. **At present, PAREB sits in the** congressional committee deliberations on House Bill No. 70, 1081, 986 and Senate Bill No. 1295.

Credible voice in the industry

PAREB stands for and in behalf of its members at industry /business/ trade/ government meetings and discussions concerning real estate interests such as land ownership, mass housing programs, urban renewal and development, zoning, rent control, land registration and titling, land conversion to non-agricultural use, taxation, and the illegal business practices by some real estate project developers, among others.

Having a membership base composed of duly licensed real estate brokers, many of whom are licensed appraisers, licensed real estate consultants, property developers, builders, lawyers, architects, accountants and practitioners of other professions, PAREB has maintained vigilance on national issues which impact on the real estate industry and on public interest.

Its ascendancy in the real estate industry over other real estate associations is manifested in the make-up of the Realty Service Council of the Philippines (Rescop), a government constituted association established to foster better coordination among the sectors involved in real estate. At present, five out of the six purely realty service associations in Rescop are headed by REALTORS®, to wit:

1. PAREB headed by Bobby Sy of Bulacan REALTORS® Board
2. IPREC - Institute of Philippine Real Estate Consultants, headed by Fico Cuervo of Manila REALTORS® Board
3. IPREA - Institute of Philippine Real Estate Appraisers, headed by Herb Buot of Cebu REALTORS® Board
4. PARA - Philippine Association of Realty Appraisers, headed by Carol Alvarez of Paranaque Las Pinas Alabang REALTORS® Board
5. PARCS - Philippine Association of Realty Consultants and Specialists, headed by Paeng Fajardo of Bulacan REALTORS® Board

Nation-builders

Mindful of the role that real estate plays in pump-priming the national economy and the local economy as well, PAREB has assumed the role of being the marketing arm of both the national government and local governments where its member REALTOR® boards are located, by promoting housing and human settlements programs, home lending programs, countryside development programs, investment promotion programs, even promotion of industrial projects. Through a year-round program of conferences, seminars and workshops, business meetings, continuing education and open fora for its member REALTORS®, PAREB ensures that members are apprised of these government programs to make effective their roles in attracting investment in their respective jurisdictions simultaneously bringing their respective growth corridors closer to realizing its full development potential.

Equally mindful of its social obligation to society in general, PAREB's outreach activities through the years has earned for itself the title as a principal stakeholder in working and technical committee deliberations in relation to environmental protection and reforestation; pollution control and environmental protection; ancestral land and livelihood programs for the indigenous people. An affirmation that PAREB is not a mere aggroupment of licensed real estate brokers but a confraternity of REALTORS®, and there lies the difference.

Industry movers in the membership network

In its roster of distinguished REALTORS® are the forefathers of Philippine real estate from decades past, brand names in property development such as AUValencia, RGV, VV Soliven, Casimiro and in professional services such as Cuervo, Ortiz. And except for the Ayalas, many of the local property developers are included in PAREB's roster.

To this day, the varied personalities in PAREB's roster of membership is a living testament to the association's dynamism and its strength in its diversity. Included in PAREB's impressive roster of "Who's Who" are Sen. Manny Villar; Rep. and former Gov. Rodolfo Valencia; Rep. Ed Zialcita; Mayor Ben Casimiro; newly appointed Con-Com Commissioner and AGFO President Gen. Joe Bello; Knights of Rizal president and former Assemblyman Roger Quiambao; Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry regional governor Zac Quintin; PCCI local chamber presidents Tony Keh (Caloocan City), Celso Valdecanas (Bataan), Tito Lazatin (Pampanga), former Assemblyman Mon Fernandez, among others.

Having created two specialized institutes almost three decades ago, PAREB created a comprehensive representation across the levels of real estate service practice in the Philippines, to wit: the Institute of Philippine Real Estate Consultants (IPREC), composed of elite and experienced real estate practitioners licensed to engage in the highest level of real estate service practice in the country; and the Institute of Philippine Real Estate Appraisers (IPREA), composed of duly licensed realty appraisers. PAREB is also the mother organization of the Philippine REALTORS® Foundation Inc. (PRFI), a service foundation to support PAREB and its charitable and humanitarian endeavors composed of incumbent and past presidents of PAREB and local board presidents.

Its affiliation with the National Association of REALTORS® gives its members access to a network of one-million strong REALTORS® across the world and the alliance PAREB seeks to establish with its neighboring Asean countries adds on to the international network its members enjoy.

Innovation

PAREB has always spearheaded innovation in the real estate service. It was the first among real estate service organizations to join the e-commerce avenue with the launching of www.pareb.com.ph in 2000. It has also pioneered in providing an internet-based property listing database for its members under www.rpmlx.com, which is available to the public. It has also pioneered a

continuation on page 6

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PAREB and NAR presidents ... from page 1

Annual Conference and Expo. This year, PAREB president Bobby Sy will head an official 20-man delegation to San Francisco for NAR's 2005 Conference and Expo dubbed "The Rush Is On" to be held at the Moscone Center on Oct. 28 - 31, 2005. Philippine delegation will be housed officially at Union Square Hotel along Powell St., San Francisco, USA and will fly off as a group on Oct. 26 via the country's flag carrier, Philippine Airlines. Prior to the opening of the 2005 NAR Conference and Expo, PAREB was invited to participate in a legislative workshop to promote greater legislative, lobbying and research activities among real estate associations in order to be able to implement programs and activities that will further strengthen PAREB's position in the industry. PAREB will be represented in this workshop by its national president Bobby Sy, former senior vice president Daisy Kokseng, international affairs committee chair Manny Bocaling and assistant secretary-general Jinny Sy.

Aside from NAR, PAREB was an active member of the Asia Pacific Real Estate Federation (APREF) until APREF merged with FIABCI. And historically, PAREB has been the first Philippine organization to bring FIABCI into the country.

Proponents of the ASEAN REALTORS ALLIANCE (From left, seated: BOBBY SY - President of the PHILIPPINE ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS BOARDS (PAREB); SOMSAK MUNEEPEERAKUL - President of the REAL ESTATE BROKER ASSOCIATION (REBA) of Thailand; PUAN KHATIJAH ADBULLAH - President of the MALAYSIAN INSTITUTE OF ESTATE AGENTS (MIEA)JEFFHERY FOO - President of the INSTITUTE OF ESTATE AGENTS OF SINGAPORE (IEA); standing 2nd and 1st from left, respectively: TAKASHI MISAWA (Japan) and John Garland (Australia)

Just recently, PAREB participated in a preliminary meeting for the creation of an Asean confraternity of real estate service organizations in Southeast Asia. It was held in Kuala Lumpur and was proposed to be named as the ASEAN REALTORS ALLIANCE (ARA).

45 years of Service ...

from page 4

property listing mechanism that makes available property listings through SMS technology. At present, PAREB uses a fast and timely e-group to facilitate the exchange of property needs and requirements of its members through the rpmlx@yahoogroups.com and the mls2005@yahoogroups.com. PAREB continuously strives to have the most comprehensive internet based MLS system where inventories get better and faster national and global marketing coverage which increase the opportunities for closed deals and higher earnings.

Self-Regulation among its rank

The bundle of membership rights to PAREB enjoyed by REALTORS® has a concomitant plethora of duties and responsibilities, most important of which are the duty to ensure that none of the real estate practices of REALTORS® will bring or will tend to bring disrepute to the title REALTOR® and the duty to adopt and abide by the Code of Ethics imposed by PAREB and that promulgated by RESCOP and that prescribed by NAR-USA under the PAREB-NAR Agreement.

Fully realizing that the prestige of membership to PAREB is largely due to its network of reputable men and women in the real estate service industry, PAREB strictly enforces a stringent nationwide circularization requirement before acceptance of any membership application. Grievance and Arbitration Committees at the local constituent member board level and at the national level hears and adjudicates complaints involving real estate transactions among its REALTORS® with proven experience in penalizing erring REALTORS®.

PAREB's organizational strength is as strong as the weakest local board in its network which in turn is as strong as the weakest member in its fold. Self-regulation of REALTORS® has been the key to PAREB's enduring strength through the years.

Having commemorated its 45th Foundation Anniversary on May 15, 2005 through a dinner dance at the Fiesta Pavilion of the Manila Hotel feted by National President Bobby Sy in honor of the 37 Past Presidents whose dedicated service and leadership has brought PAREB to its present stature, PAREB now commences its countdown to its golden year by 2010. Having acknowledged its history, the harder task is ensuring that the tradition live on and the legacy be instilled in its present-day concerns.

Seated from left: TENG LIM (1998), OP GARCIA (1989-1991), QUIN BATERNA (1985-1986), GERRY MANZANO (1979-1980), ERNESTO CASTANEDA (1968-1969), LOLIT MANUEL (1987-1988), VV SOLIVEN (1974-1975), HERB BUOT (2004), GABRIEL CASIMIRO (1982-1984), MON TIOSECO (1984-1985). Standing from left: 2005 Chairman of the BOD Roger Quiambao, FILEMON SAROMO (1986-1987), ZAC QUINTIN (1997), JOHNNY DAYAG (1980-1981), LOUIE SERQUINA (2002), WAYNE MALILAY (2000), CESAR ARNALDO (2003), BOBBY SY (2005), 2005 Secretary General Mon Fernandez. Not in photo: Samuel Buot (1974), Rodolfo G. Valencia (1977-1979), Eleuterio P. Ong-Vano (1992), Amelita P. Sarmiento (1993), Robert James Siao (1994), Eduardo Sarabosing (1996), and Jose C. Bello (1999)

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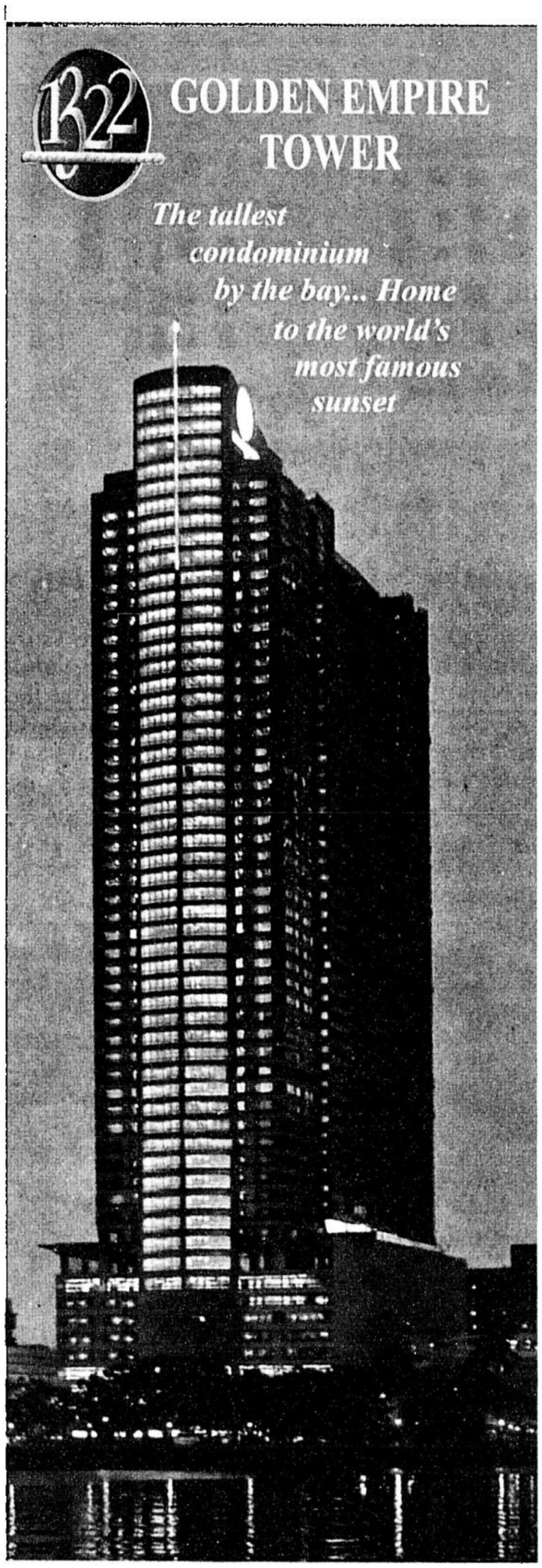

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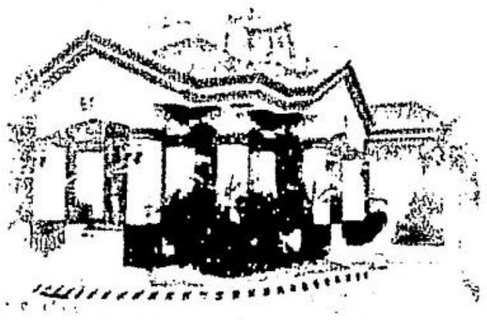

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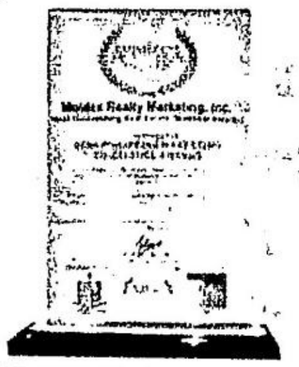

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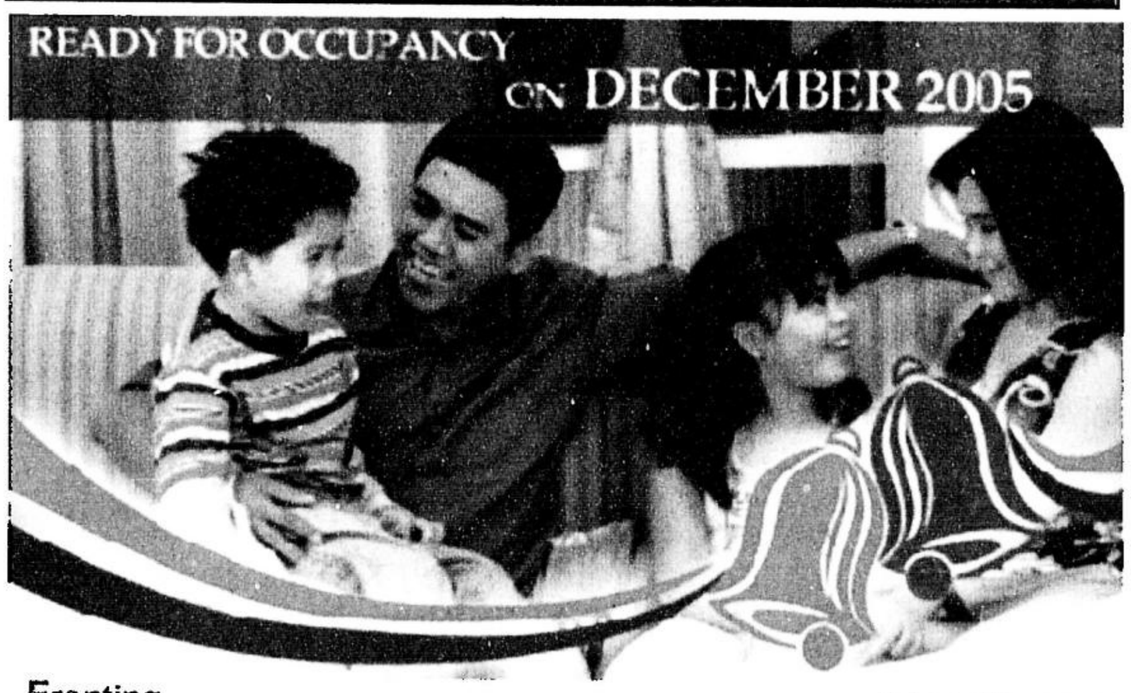

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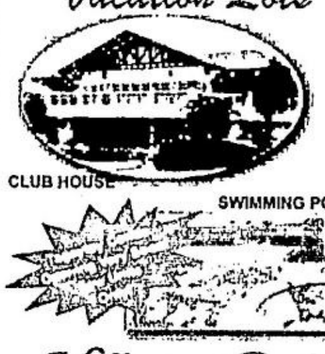

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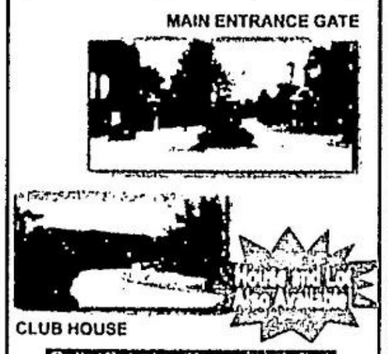

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The Philippine Real Estate Sector In Focus

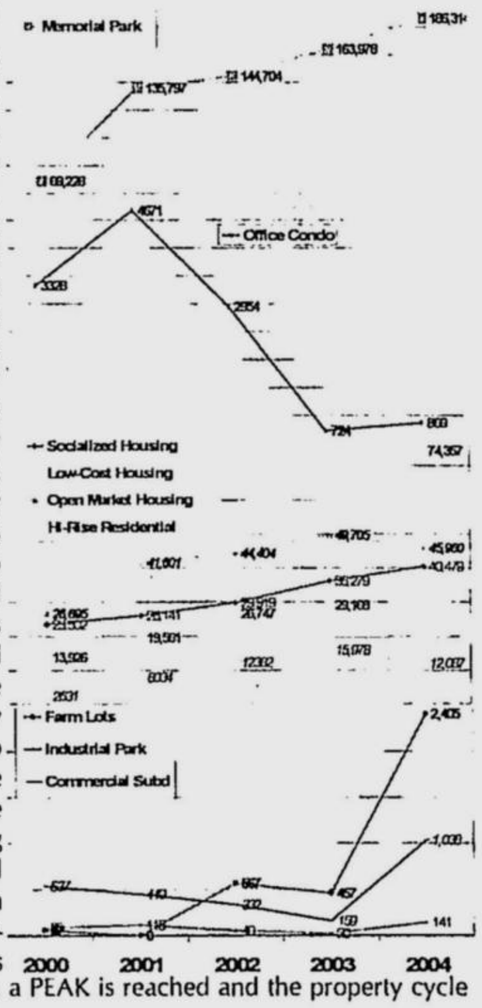
By Bobby Sy, REALTOR®

The real estate boom during the mid-90's until the 2nd quarter of 1997 is not quite forgotten in our minds. Nowhere in the history of Philippine real estate have we witnessed the rapid mushrooming of industrial estates, central business districts as alternative to the premiere Makati CBD, state-of-the art office condominiums sprouting within the existing Makati and Ortigas CBDs, golf courses, luxury residential condominiums and town houses, and even low-cost and socialized housing.

But just as life is cyclical so is the property market. With the vigorous activity and robust growth in the different real estate sectors witnessed during these times, it was but logical for the property market to reach a state of oversupply. It did not help that a global economic crisis was experienced at the same time when an oversupply was reached. Because the situation of the real estate industry is actually a reflection of the existing socio-economic and political situation of our country vis-à-vis the global situation during that time, land prices declined by as much as 60 percent from the peak price it reached prior to the 1997 crisis which were estimated to have reverted back to 1994 levels. Rental rates also suffered resulting to landlords cutting lease rates, increasing concessions and delaying rental escalation. During times like these, only a handful remained bullish in real estate. While everyone has given up, those in the know all stood their ground. These handful knows that the situation will improve, sooner or later, hopefully sooner, because of the cyclical nature of the property market.

Nature of the Property Cycle

To better appreciate and understand the property cycle, the PEAK of the property cycle is often used as reference point. At the so-called PEAK, capital values, rental rates, occupancy rates and landlord confidence are at its highest. Construction of new developments merely continued at this phase. The passing of the PEAK remains unnoticed to the property market because the occupancy rate remains high. Only when the occupancy rate declines due to an oversupply and rental rates are eroded by new supply does the downturn become manifest. This is the PHASE OF HYPERSUPPLY (Phase 3 in the property cycle). As the market realization of the downturn become widespread, new construction significantly slows down or in some cases stands still. When the occupancy level fall below the long-term-average and supply further increases as the construction of new developments begin to complete, the PHASE OF RECESSION begins (Phase 4 in the property cycle). Soon, landlords are forced to bring down rental rates and as the market tries to absorb the oversupply the property cycle reaches the so-called TROUGH LEVEL. At the trough level, land values, rental rates, occupancy rates and landlord confidence are at its lowest level while property supply is at its highest level. It is important to remember that at this level, the duration of the downcycle is determined by the extent of the overbuilding. In other words, at this phase, things can only get better. As the market slowly absorbs this oversupply, the PHASE OF RECOVERY (Phase 1 of the property cycle) begins, resulting to the improvement of the occupancy rate and landlord confidence. The length of recovery period is dependent on the extent of oversupply in the market. Afterwhich, rents start to increase and before long, the market reaches its long-term average and the PHASE OF EXPANSION (Phase 2 of the property cycle) begins. A shortage of new supply further causes rental rates to increase and landlords aggressively demand higher rents and the situation fuels new developments to commence because developers take the cue from the rising rental and capital values which are an indication that a cost-feasible-level has been reached. Soon, a PEAK is reached and the property cycle continues on.



Philippine Property Supply

At the close of the year 2004, an increase in property developments across the different property sectors of the country has been witnessed. The 2004 figures from the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB) as compared to the years 2000 until 2003 has been very encouraging, signalling the slow ascent from the phase of recovery and perhaps onwards to the phase of expansion.

Emerging Markets for Property Development

OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING. The movement in the housing sector is largely attributed to the the rising NET FACTOR INCOME FROM ABROAD (NFIA) and the inflow of OFW remittances which has been credited for keeping the national economy afloat. This is coupled by government's financing support through its different financing vehicles.

In 2002, OFW remittance totaled $7.2 billion; in 2003, $ 7.6 billion; and in 2004, $ 8.6 billion. The remittance during the first six months of 2005 totalled $4.9 billion. With more than 8 million Filipinos working abroad, many of whom can be found in the Middle East , Europe and in Asia; and on a per country basis, in Saudi Arabia, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Japan, the demand for affordable housing is expected to continue. With a guaranteed market to absorb the supply, an overhang does not seem imminent. In fact, the demand for housing continues to grow at the same rate that the Philippine population grows. Annual population growth rate is estimated at 2.36 percent while urbanization rate or the proportion of urban areas to total land area is 52 percent. And the housing need for the period from the year 2005 to 2010 is projected to be 3.75 million units. More than half of these total housing need is in Southern Tagalog, Metro Manila and Central Luzon combined with a total projection of 56 percent while 21percent is projected to be in the Visayas and 23percent in Mindanao. Housing projects in the Southern Tagalog area are concentrated in Laguna, Cavite and Batangas while those in Central Luzon are concentrated in Bulacan. All these areas are within the concentric influence of Metro Manila.

OVERSEAS FILIPINOS FOR LIFESTYLE PROPERTIES. Similarly, the market posed by natural-born Filipinos acquiring citizenship from other countries is helping boost the real estate sector in the Philippines. More so with the passage of Republic Act No. 9225, a big bulk of whom come from our baby boomers comprised of professionals and technocrats who have sought greener pastures in western countries, became successful in their fields and are now reinvesting back into the Philippines.

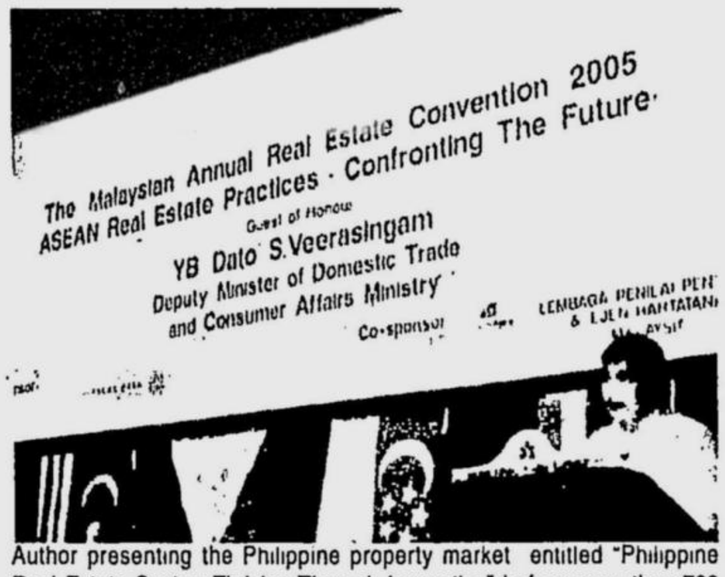
FOREIGN RETIREES FOR RETIREMENT VILLAGES. Another emerging target market are the retirees. There are millions of foreign elderly retirees considering retirement in countries with milder climates than their country of origin and in countries where they can get more value out of their retirement pensions. The Philippine Retirement Authority encourage investments in retirement projects, in addition to the Philippine retirement package for overseas Filipinos and for foreigners.

DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN TOURISTS FOR RESORT, LEISURE & TOURISM DEVELOPMENTS. With the country's 18,000 km coastline, there are many opportunities in tourism related activities waiting to be explored. Investment incentives are available for the development of tourism estates, establishment of tourist accommodation facilities, modernization/rehabilitation of tourist accommodation facilities, expansion of existing tourist accommodation facilities, and the restoration of historical and cultural sites/properties.

OUTSOURCING COMPANIES FOR CYBERPARK BUILDINGS. The call center industry is achieving a minimum of 100 percent year-on-year growth since 2002. Call centers are now eyeing regions outside of Metro Manila, notably Pampanga, Cebu, Dagupan, Dumaguete City, Davao and Cagayan de Oro as potential call center site to avoid fighting over the same pool of available workforce. These areas were handpicked as viable for call center investments because they share a common factor — all are the "university-heavy" provinces and can draw potential call center agents from nearby provinces and cities. Dumaguete is especially promising with its carefully laid out fibre-optic system and its reputation for being a "university town" in the Visayas region. And real estate developers of cyberparks or I.T. buildings might find lucrative lease returns for call center operators.

COMMUNITY CENTER/ STRIP MALL. With the slowdown in the retail segment, commercial developments are starting to veer away from big box development and retail activities focus on neighborhood needs with retail developments on a smaller floor area.

While the upward movement in the real estate sector is becoming noticeable, there are still real estate institutions and facilities that the Philippines need to put up in order to strengthen its real estate market as it positions itself to be part of the global real estate market such as the real estate investment trusts (REITS), title insurance and perhaps even reevaluate the constitutional prohibition on foreign ownership of land.



Author presenting the Philippine property market entitled "Philippine Real Estate Sector: Thriving Through Innovation" before more than 700 international real estate participants held last March 6 at Kuala Lumpur.

For comments, e-mail **bobbysy@mozcom.com**
For more info, visit **www.bobbysy.ph**

REALTOR® Bobby Sy is the youngest to have ever been licensed in the Philippines as a real estate consultant, the highest level and most specialized level of real estate service practice in the Philippines. He has been a licensed real estate broker for the past 15 years and a licensed real estate appraiser for eight years. He is a graduate of the University of the Philippines holding the degrees of BA Econ (*cum laude*), MPA and Dip Land Use Planning. He initiated the creation of the Real Estate Management program offered at the DLSU-CSB SPACE.

PAREB: Carrying a mandate to regulate real estate service practice in the Philippines

Today's real estate clients neither know nor care that a license is required before anyone can engage in the pratice of transacting real estate. After all, real estate brokering is an age-old career.

It is only when they fall victim to unscrupulous and anomalous transactions do they realize the value of dealing with licensed practitioners.

Rationale for Licensing

Licensing is necessary to ensure RESPONSIBILITY, LIABILITY and CONSUMER PROTECTION in the real estate service practice. It is a continuing battle to this very day to put respectability and accountability in the profession. And it will be nearly a decade of fighting off the 19th century stereotype of unscrupulous and amoral "curbstoners" that has tainted the profession and its practitioners.

History of Regulation

It was in 1908 when local real estate groups in Chicago got together to form the National Association of Real Estate Exchanges, renamed the National Association of Real Estate Boards (NAREB) and the precursor of today's National Association of Realtors (NAR). At the time, the word "REALTOR®" didn't exist, and it was only in 1916 when NAREB adopted the term REALTOR® **to distinguish its members from run-of-the-mill brokers,** a concrete example of its efforts to establish a new and respectable profession. Its history bear witness to its efforts *"to create, almost from scratch, a profession, complete with a scientific discourse, university-level curriculum, and standardized business practices"*.

In 1918, NAREB ratified a model for licensing law to be adopted by its state organizations (which finally gained nationwide acceptance in the year 1950).

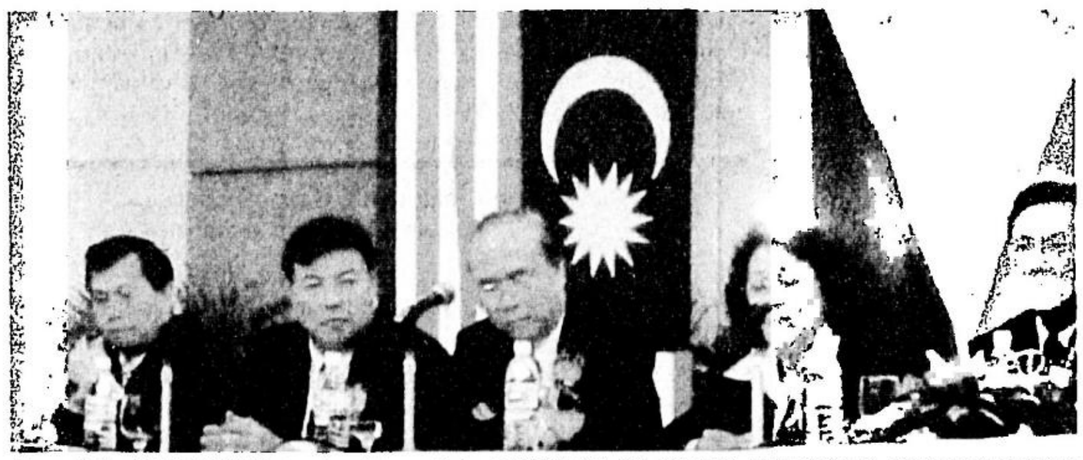
In 1923, a joint NAR-led committee approved a textbook series and two-year curriculum for real estate brokers. And it was during this year that the licensing of real estate brokers in the Philippines started to take shape when Colin N. Hoskins drafted the licensing rules and regulation which was promulgated as Commerce Administrative Order NO. 3-C by the then Department of Commerce and Industry of the Philippines. In 1938, he organized the Manila Realty Board (incorporated in 1952 as the Manila Board of Realtors which was subsequently admitted into the membership of NAREB) for the purpose of elevating the practice of real estate service in the Philippines.

In 1955, Antonio Varias of the Manila Board, launched an intensive campaign across the country to aid the government to prepare and qualify for real estate broker licensing those who wanted to consider it as a profession. Following this campaign, nine real estate boards were born across the country which he organized in 1960 as the Philippine Association of Realtors Boards, Inc. (PAREB), which immediately undertook the revision of the licensing regulations for real estate brokerage leading to the promulgation of Commerce Administrative Order No. 1, Series of 1960. Thus, earning for itself in 1961 the recognition of the Bureau of Commerce as the General Consultative Body of the Government on Real Estate Concerns. In 1985, PAREB was issued by Lilia B. de Lima a Certificate of Recognition as the National Federation of realty service organizations and the general consultative body of the Bureau of Domestic Trade on real estate matters.

The history of regulating real estate service practice in the country is ultimately tied to the history of PAREB.

Regulation across countries

The regulation of real estate service practice is an aspiration PAREB shares with its counterpart associations across different countries, especially those in Southeast Asia. In a recent meeting held in Kuala Lumpur on March 5, 2005 between PAREB and its counterpart associations from Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand, the real estate practices of the four countries were discussed and compared using a 9-item guideline, and the problem of regulating unlicensed real estate service practice surfaced as a shared concern across the four countries.



From left: JEFFHERY FOO - President of the INSTITUTE OF ESTATE AGENTS OF SINGAPORE (IEA); BOBBY SY - President of the PHILIPPINE ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS BOARDS (PAREB); SOMSAK MUNEEPEERAKUL - President of the REAL ESTATE BROKER ASSOCIATION (REBA) of Thailand; PUAN KHATIJAH ADBULLAH - President of the MALAYSIAN INSTITUTE OF ESTATE AGENTS (MIEA)

The challenge

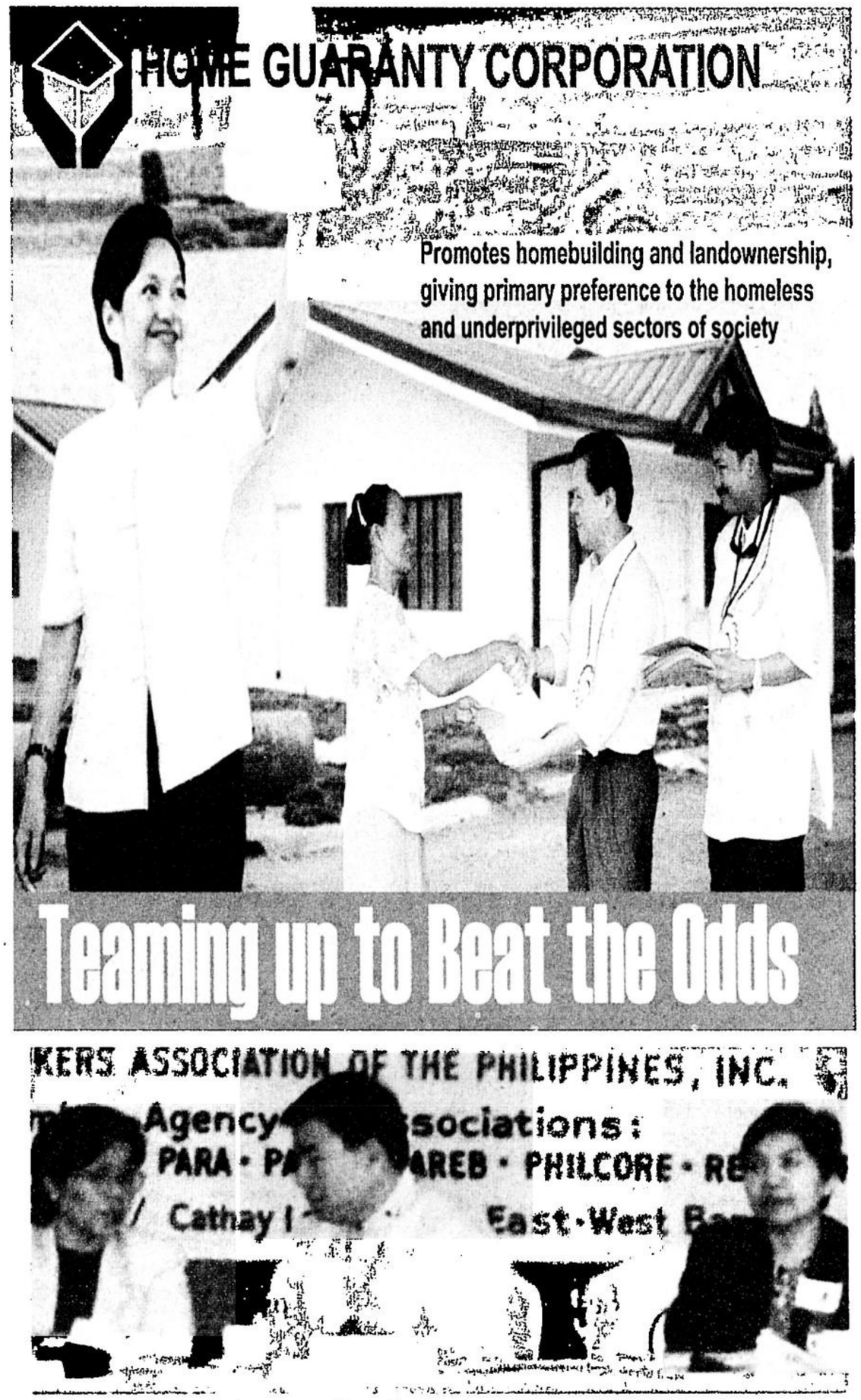
The proliferation of unlicensed practitioners known as "colorum" has been a cause of concern for many years now.

Not only does the government lose out on licensing fees and income taxes from the unlicensed practitioners, consumer protection is compromised, eroding the very foundations of the integrity of real estate service practice.

Ministry Order No. 39 promulgated in 1985 has not been able to curb unlicensed practice. And the legislative efforts to put more teeth into regulatory laws have been waylaid in the last 12 years. But hope in legislation cannot be doused. House Bill No. 1081/ 70 has just been calendared for appropriation. Very recently, Senate Bill No. 2060, an enhanced version of the House bills, was filed by Sen. Rodolfo G. Biazon. In the meantime, PAREB is taking positive action separate from legislation to set-up mechanisms and procedures for 40 of its existing local REALTORS boards across the country to adopt, in order to enforce the existing DTI rules.

Self-regulation is at the heart of the battle to instill Responsibility, Liability and Consumer Protection to the practice of the profession.

And it is Self-regulation that has been PAREB's strength in its 45 years of existence as it continues to carry-on its mandate to regulate real estate service practice in the Philippines.



Trade and Industry Undersecretary Zeny Maglaya in conference with PAREB national president Bobby Sy and PAREB past national president Amy Sarmiento.

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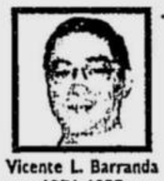
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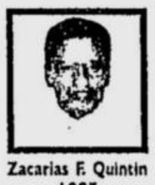
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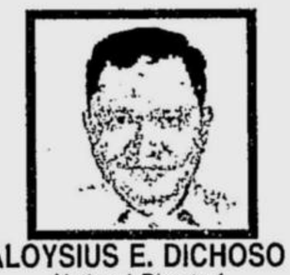
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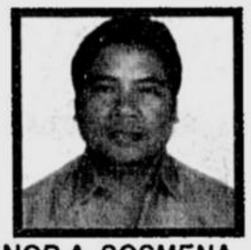
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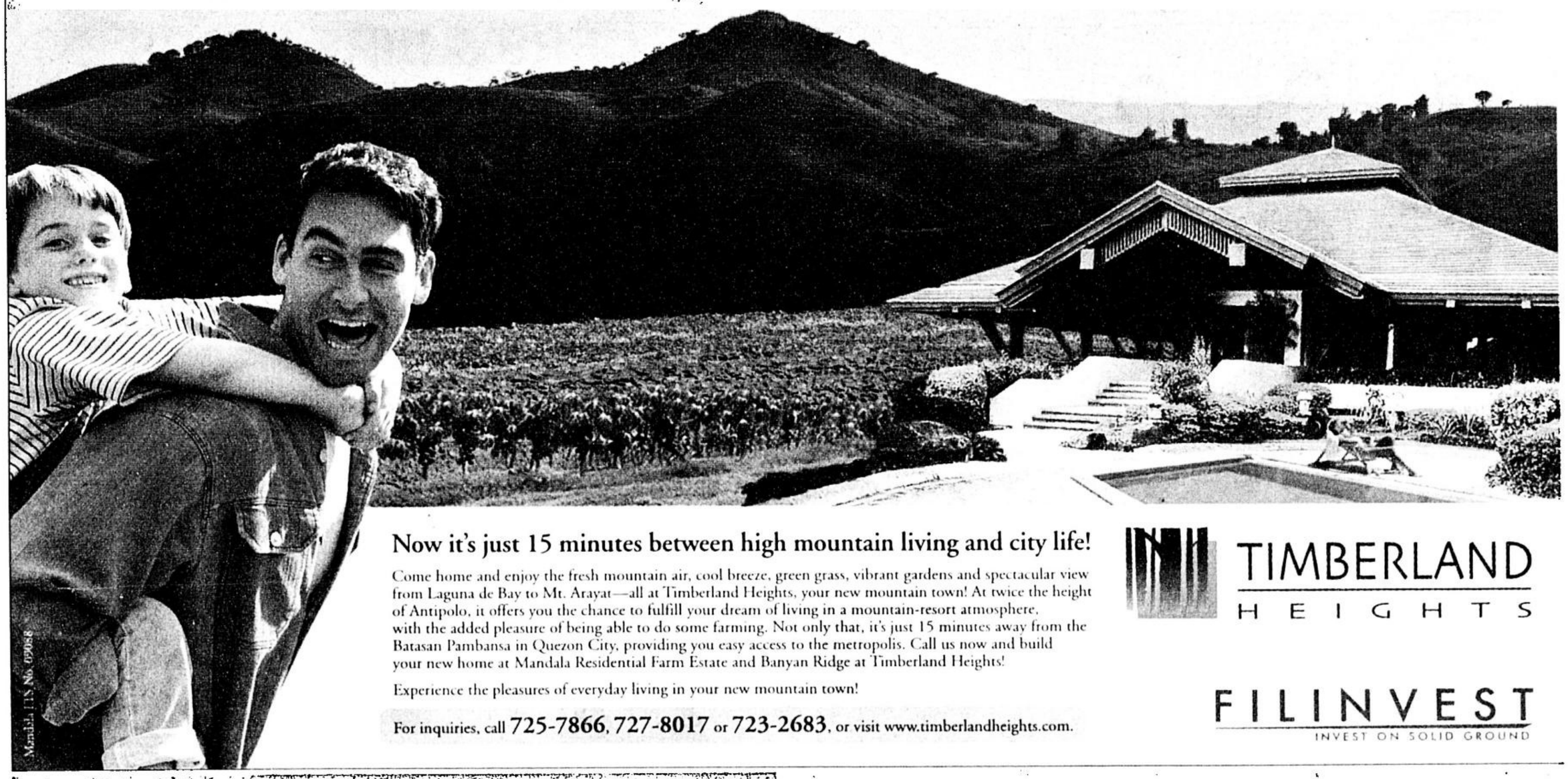

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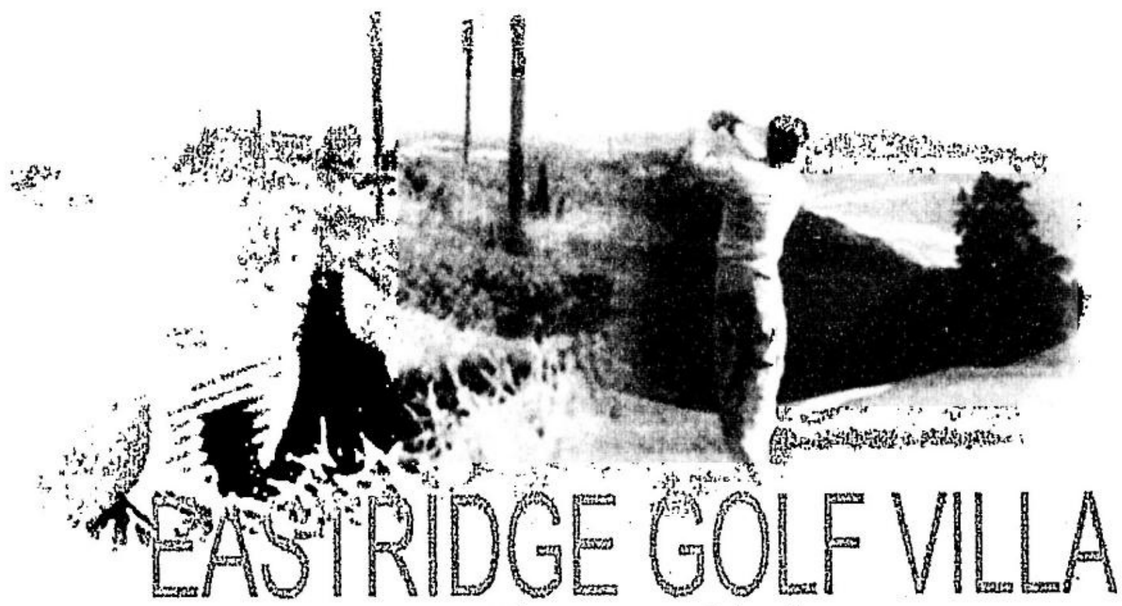

EASTRIDGE GOLF VILLA
Binangonan Rizal

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You will enjoy the luxury for only P8,374/month

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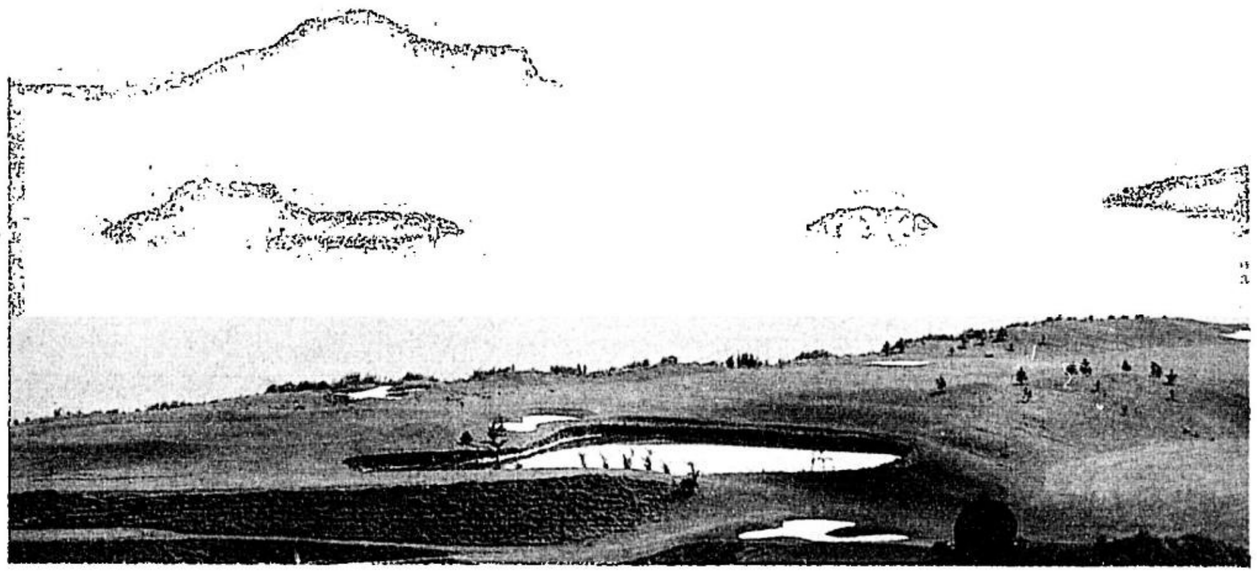
The Woodlands



Tagaytay Highlands Golf Club

Tagaytay Highlands Country Club

The Belle View

48-seater Swiss Funicular System

Tagaytay Highlands

Two 18-hole championship golf courses ❧ state-of-the-art sports facilities ❧ diverse recreational activities ❧ more than 20 restaurants ❧ 24-hour security ❧ Lock-Up-&-Leave Homes ❧ 100% emergency power supply ❧ independent and unlimited water supply ❧ 24-hour medical service ❧ independent fire fighting team ❧ WiFi Internet Broadband Network ❧ 60 minutes from the Makati and Ortigas Business Centers ❧ 2,000 feet above sea level ❧ cool Tagaytay weather

All these and the privacy afforded by a members-only gated recreational and residential community are but few reasons why The Highlands has risen from just being your club to being a family tradition.

Lakeview Heights

Tagaytay Midlands Golf Club

The Lagoon Park at Plantation Hills

The Lagoon Park at Plantation Hills

The Parks at Saratoga Hills

Set Your Sights Higher.

Highlands
Tagaytay City, Philippines

Tagaytay Highlands (046)413-0824 / Belle Corporation (02)687-2885 or (0917)526-1253

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Owner/Developer

BELLE CORPORATION

Republic of the Philippines
SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM
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Asset Management Department

SSS PROPERTIES FOR SALE or LEASE

I. OFFICE/COMMERCIAL Bldgs./Units
A. P 10M and ABOVE

1. SSS MAKATI BUILDING,
Ayala Avenue Cor. Herrera St., Makati City

Lot Area : 5,881.00 sqm 4 Parcels of Land	Floor Area : 19,089.46 sqm Lot Area of Bldg. : 3,144.00 sqm	P 1.75 Billion

2. PRYCE TOWER CONDOMINIUM,
Pryce Business Park, Bajada, Davao City

PT Penthouse – 2B	261.35	Office Unit	P 12,283,450.00
PT Penthouse – 2D	249.29	Office Unit	11,716,630.00
PT Penthouse – 1A *	245.92	Office Unit	11,580,240.00
PT Penthouse – 2A	245.92	Office Unit	11,558,240.00

3. SAN PEDRO PROPERTY
Sto. Nino St., San Pedro, Laguna

Laguna Science and Technology College	Land Area : 475.00	6 storey Bldg.	P 29,860,000.00

B. ABOVE P 1M TO P 10M

1). GLOBE TELECOM PLAZA,
Pioneer St., Cor. Madison St. Mandaluyong City

	Floor Area	Parking Slot	Selling Price
Unit # 608	160.56	1 parking slot	P 7,233,908.00
815 *	123.16	1 parking slot	5,670,588.00
614	119.75	1 parking slot	5,528,050.00
814 *	119.75	1 parking slot	5,528,050.00
619	108.95	1 parking slot	5,076,610.00
819	108.95	1 parking slot	5,076,610.00

2). GLOBE TOWER II (PIONEER CORPORATE CENTER),
Pioneer St., Cor. Madison St. Mandaluyong City

	Floor Area	Parking Slot	Selling Price
Unit # 601	206.80	1 parking slot	P 9,166,740.00
609 *	147.54	1 parking slot	6,689,672.00
616	145.37	1 parking slot	6,598,966.00
607 *	133.11	1 parking slot	6,086,498.00
615 *	118.43	1 parking slot	5,472,874.00

* With Existing Lease Contract

711	112.85	1 parking slot	P 5,239,630.00
606	102.46	1 parking slot	4,805,328.00
610	102.94	1 parking slot	4,805,328.00
806	102.46	1 parking slot	4,805,328.00
605	90.20	1 parking slot	4,292,860.00
602	89.95	1 parking slot	4,282,410.00
604	89.25	1 parking slot	4,282,410.00
617	71.66	1 parking slot	3,517,888.00

3). EGI RUFINO PLAZA,
Taft Ave. Corner Sen. Gil Puyat, Pasay City

Unit # 14 – 1G	64.057	1 parking slot	P 4,256,898.00
14 – 1D	62.198	1 parking slot	4,148,595.00
14 – 1F	57.271	1 parking slot	3,861,552.00
14 – 1E	55.462	1 parking slot	3,756,162.00

4). PRYCE CENTER MAKATI,
Bagtican St. Corner Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City

Unit # 904	123.86	1 parking slot	P 5,549,852.00
1004	123.86	1 parking slot	5,549,852.00
907	121.15	1 parking slot	5,439,351.50
1007	121.15	1 parking slot	5,439,351.50
1107	121.15	1 parking slot	5,439,351.50
901	110.10	1 parking slot	4,989,616.50
1001	110.10	1 parking slot	4,989,616.50
1101	110.10	1 parking slot	4,989,616.50
503	107.94	1 parking slot	4,901,908.00
903	107.94	1 parking slot	4,901,908.00
1003	107.94	1 parking slot	4,901,908.00
1103	107.94	1 parking slot	4,901,908.00
906	92.13	1 parking slot	4,258,441.00
1006	92.13	1 parking slot	4,258,441.00
1106	92.13	1 parking slot	4,258,441.00
905	89.26	1 parking slot	4,141,632.00
1005	89.26	1 parking slot	4,141,632.00
1105	89.26	1 parking slot	4,141,632.00
902	73.31	1 parking slot	3,492,467.00
1002	73.31	1 parking slot	3,492,467.00
1102	73.31	1 parking slot	3,492,467.00

5). PRYCE TOWER CONDOMINIUM,
Pryce Business Park, Bajada, Davao City

PT Penthouse – 2C	208.70	Office Unit	P 9,808,900.00
PT Suite 105	203.44	Office Unit	9,561,680.00
PT Suite 104	139.14	Office Unit	6,539,580.00
PT Suite 107 *	137.19	Office Unit	6,447,930.00
PT Suite 101	125.76	Office Unit	5,910,720.00
PT Suite 103	120.21	Office Unit	5,649,870.00
PT Suite 073	120.21	Office Unit	5,649,870.00
PT Suite 106	117.36	Office Unit	P 5,515,920.00
PT Suite 076	117.36	Office Unit	5,515,920.00
PT Suite 102	116.15	Office Unit	5,459,050.00
PT Suite 072	116.15	Office Unit	5,459,050.00
58 Parking Slots			P 508,750.00 per slot

II. RESIDENTIAL UNITS
A. P 10M and ABOVE

1. SSS Urdaneta Village Properties,
Urdaneta Village Makati City

	Floor Area (sq. m.)	Lot Area	Parking Slots	Selling Price
No. 24 – A,B,C,&D Real St. *	320.00/unit	1,140.00		P 91,946,791.20
No. 28 – A,B,C,&D Real St. *	320.00/unit	1,128.00		90,978,930.24
No. 26 - A,B,C,&D Real St. *	320.00/unit	1,127.00		90,898,275.16
No. 33 Sto. Domingo St. *	517.00	1,121.00		83,754,000.00
No. 22 Sto. Domingo St. *	526.00	1,046.00		78,464,000.00
No. 14 Recoletos St *	314.00	1,002.00		72,514,000.00
No. 11 Sto. Tomas St. *	325.00	890.00		65,057,00.00

2. RENAISSANCE TOWER 1,
Ortigas Center, Pasig City

	Floor Area (sq.m.)	BDR	Parking Slots	Selling Price
Penthouse Unit F 2804 *	384.66	4	2	P 17,574,414.00

3. BAYVIEW TOWER 1,
Roxas Blvd. Paranaque City

Unit – Penthouse 5	285.00	4	2	P 13,299,000.00
Unit – Penthouse 6	285.00	4	2	13,299,000.00

4. PIONEER WEST HIGHLANDS,
Pioneer corner Madison St., Mandaluyong City

PWH 3804 *	436.56	3	1	P 18,770,708.00
PWH 3801 *	384.18	3	1	16,581,224.00
PWH 3803 *	340.16	3	1	14,741,188.00
PWH 3601 *	226.85	3	1	10,004,830.00
PWH 3701	226.85	3	1	10,004,830.00

B. ABOVE P 1M TO P 10M

1. BELLA VILLA CONDOMINIUM,
Hamburg St. Merville Park, Paranaque City

1.1 ANDALUCIA

	Floor Area (sq.m.)	BDR	Parking Slots	Selling Price
Unit # 208	158.00	3	2	P 7,071,300.00
308 *	158.00	3	2	7,071,300.00
408	158.00	3	2	7,071,300.00
106 *	134.00	3	2	6,174,900.00
205 *	134.00	3	2	6,174,900.00
305 *	134.00	3	2	6,174,900.00
306 *	134.00	3	2	6,174,900.00
405 *	134.00	3	2	6,174,900.00
406 *	134.00	3	2	6,174,900.00

1.2 BARCELONA

	Floor Area (sq.m.)	BDR	Parking Slots	Selling Price
Unit # 305	223.47	3	2	P 9,516,604.50
306	223.47	3	2	9,516,604.50
308	222.67	3	2	9,486,724.00
301	203.89	2	2	8,785,291.50
302	203.89	2	2	8,785,291.50
108	195.85	3	2	8,484,997.50
303	187.54	2	2	8,174,619.00
106	174.26	3	2	7,678,611.00

1.3 CATALUNA

	Floor Area (sq.m.)	BDR	Parking Slots	Selling Price
Unit # 305	223.47	3	2	P 9,516,604.50
306	223.47	3	2	9,516,604.50
302	203.89	2	2	8,785,291.50
105	174.26	3	2	7,678,611.00
106 *	174.26	3	2	7,678,611.00
101 *	150.75	2	1	6,215,512.00
17 Parking Slots	–	–	17	585,000.00/ slot

2. WEST TOWER,
South Super Highway, Bangkal Makati City

	Floor Area (sq.m.)	BDR	Parking Slots	Selling Price
West Tower 0502 *	97.96	2	1	P 4,252,710.00
West Tower 0511 *	97.91.	2	1	4,250,785.00
West Tower 0603 *	74.36	1	1	3,344,110.00
West Tower 0803 *	74.36	1	1	3,344,110.00
West Tower 0504 *	73.46	1	1	3,309,460.00
West Tower 0604 *	73.46	1	1	3,309,460.00
West Tower 0609 *	73.46	1	1	3,309,460.00
West Tower 0904	73.46	1	1	3,309,460.00
West Tower 1104 *	73.46	1	1	3,309,460.00
West Tower 1609 *	73.46	1	1	P 3,309,460.00
West Tower 0810 *	70.25	1	1	3,185,875.00
West Tower 0910 *	70.25	1	1	3,185,875.00
West Tower 1110	70.25	1	1	3,185,875.00
West Tower 1210	70.25	1	1	3,185,875.00

3. PIONEER MADISON SUITES,
Pioneer corner Madison St., Mandaluyong City

	Floor Area (sq.m.)	BDR	Parking Slots	Selling Price
PMS 3601 *	141.20	3	1	P 6,424,660.00
PMS 3401 *	141.20	3	1	5,902,160.00
PMS 3701 *	141.20	3	1	5,902,160.00
PMS 3207 *	133.45	3	1	6,100,710.00
PMS 3307 *	133.45	3	1	6,100,710.00
PMS 3407 *	133.45	3	1	6,100,710.00
PMS 3507	133.45	3	1	6,100,710.00
PMS 3607 *	133.45	3	1	6,100,710.00
PMS 3506 *	103.34	2	1	4,842,112.00
PMS 2508 *	117.53	3	1	5,435,254.00
PMS 3706 *	103.34	2	1	4,842,112.00
PMS 3506 *	103.34	2	1	4,842,112.00
PMS 3906 *	103.34	2	1	4,842,112.00
* PMS 3504	94.84	2	1	4,486,812.00
PMS 3904 *	94.84	2	1	4,486,812.00

4. PIONEER WEST HIGHLANDS,
Pioneer corner Madison St., Mandaluyong City

	Floor Area (sq.m.)	BDR	Parking Slots	Selling Price
PWH 3704	200.27	3	1	P 8,893,786.00
PWH 2011 *	134.83	3	1	6,158,394.00
PWH 2211	134.83	3	1	6,158,394.00
PWH 2311	134.83	3	1	6,158,394.00
PWH 2411 *	134.83	3	1	6,158,394.00
PWH 2511 *	134.83	3	1	6,158,394.00
PWH 2611 *	134.83	3	1	6,158,394.00
PWH 2811 *	134.83	3	1	6,158,394.00
PWH 2911 *	134.83	3	1	6,158,394.00
PWH 3009 *	134.83	3	1	6,158,394.00
PWH 3109	134.83	3	1	6,158,394.00
PWH 3409 *	134.83	3	1	6,158,394.00
PWH 906	122.90	3	1	5,659,720.00
PWH 2306 *	122.90	3	1	5,659,720.00
PWH 2706 **	122.90	3	1	5,659,720.00

C. BELOW P 1M

1. CATTLEYA CONDOMINIUM,
R. Cruz St. Brgy. Pinagbuhatan, Pasig City

	Floor Area (sq.m.)	Description	Selling Price
Cattleya Homes 114	44.82	Condo. w/ Mezzanine	P 762,000.00
Cattleya Homes 115	44.82	Condo. w/ Mezzanine	762,000.00
Cattleya Homes 116	44.82	Condo. w/ Mezzanine	762,000.00
Cattleya Homes 117	44.82	Condo. w/ Mezzanine	762,000.00
Cattleya Homes 118	44.82	Condo. w/ Mezzanine	762,000.00
Cattleya Homes 120	44.82	Condo. w/ Mezzanine	762,000.00
Cattleya Homes 121	44.82	Condo. w/ Mezzanine	762,000.00
Cattleya Homes 129 *	44.82	Condo. w/ Mezzanine	762,000.00
Cattleya Homes 130 *	44.82	Condo. w/ Mezzanine	762,000.00
Cattleya Homes 131 *	44.82	Condo. w/ Mezzanine	762,000.00
Cattleya Homes 132	44.82	Condo. w/ Mezzanine	762,000.00
Cattleya Homes 133	44.82	Condo. w/ Mezzanine	762,000.00
Cattleya Homes 134	44.82	Condo. w/ Mezzanine	762,000.00
Cattleya Homes 137 *	44.82	Condo. w/ Mezzanine	762,000.00
Cattleya Homes 138 *	44.82	Condo. w/ Mezzanine	762,000.00
Cattleya Homes 139 *	44.82	Condo. w/ Mezzanine	762,000.00
Cattleya Homes 140 *	44.82	Condo. w/ Mezzanine	762,000.00
Cattleya Homes 141 *	44.82	Condo. w/ Mezzanine	762,000.00
Cattleya Homes 143 *	44.82	Condo. w/ Mezzanine	762,000.00
Cattleya Homes 146	44.82	Condo. w/ Mezzanine	762,000.00

III. VACANT LOTS

A. COMMERCIAL LOTS

1. FINANCIAL CENTER AREA,
Brgy. San Rafael, Pasay City

FCA 7	74,995.00	P 4,499,700,000.00
FCA 5 **	50,001.00	3,000,060,000.00

2. FORT BONIFACIO GLOBAL CITY,
Taguig, Metro Manila

Block 56 Lot 4	2,604.00	P 286,440,000.00
Block 56 Lot 3	2,200.00	242,000,000.00
Block 57 Lot 2	1,805.00	239,528,856.00
Block 57 Lot 4	2,145.00	235,950,000.00
Block 56 Lot 2	1,796.00	197,560,000.00
Block 56 Lot 1	1,700.00	187,000,000.00
Block 57 Lot 3	1,700.00	187,000,000.00
Block 57 Lot 1 (part)	310.45	41,197,636.20

3. BAGBAG Property,
Lot 414-E Quirino Highway Cor. Seminary Rd., Bagbag, Novaliches, Quezon City

Lot with warehouse (Warehouse Used by SSS-RIMC)	13,296.00	P 159,552,000.00

4. MARILAO PROPERTY,
Brgy. Ibayo, Marilao Bulacan (near SM Marilao)

Lot 1, TCT – T-412108 With 9 warehouses	23,135.00	P 117,617,000.00

5. VILLA JOSEPHINA TOWN CENTRE,
Brgy. Dumoy Talomo District, Davao City

Blk 4	10,157.00	P 41,643,700.00
JTC Lot 9 Blk 5	1,500.00	6,150,000.00
JTC Lot 10 Blk 5	1,500.00	6,150,000.00
JTC Lot 3 Blk 5	1,117.00	4,579,700.00
JTC Lot 1 Blk 2	1,010.00	4,141,000.00
JTC Lot 2 Blk 2	1,010.00	4,141,000.00
JTC Lot 3 Blk 2	1,010.00	4,141,000.00
JTC Lot 1 Blk 1	844.00	3,460,400.00
JTC Lot 2 Blk 1	844.00	3,460,400.00
JTC Lot 3 Blk 1	844.00	3,460,400.00
JTC Lot 4 Blk 5	805.00	3,300,500.00
JTC Lot 5 Blk 5	780.00	P 3,198,000.00
JTC Lot 6 Blk 2	768.00	3,148,800.00
JTC Lot 4 Blk 2	766.00	3,140,600.00
JTC Lot 5 Blk 2	766.00	3,140,600.00
JTC Lot 1 Blk 3	755.00	3,095,500.00
JTC Lot 2 Blk 3	755.00	3,095,500.00
JTC Lot 6 Blk 5	700.00	2,870,000.00
JTC Lot 7 Blk 5	699.00	2,865,900.00
JTC Lot 8 Blk 5	699.00	2,865,900.00

6. PRYCE BUSINESS PARK,
Pryce Business Park Davao City

PBP Lot 5	1,090.00	P 23,544,000.00
PBP Lot 2	900.00	19,440,000.00

7. LOAKAN BAGUIO Property,
Loakan Baguio City

Lot 2	1,364.00	P 23,188,000.00

B. INDUSTRIAL LOTS

1. MANILA HARBOUR CENTRE,
Central Business District, Tondo Manila

Blk. 12	35,503.87	P 905,348,685.00
Blk. 4 Lot 12 *	10000.00	225,000,000.00
Blk. 16 Lot 4 *	2785.30	71,025,150.00
Blk. 13 Lot 5	1,200.00	30,600,000.00
Blk. 18 Lot 1 *	1,200.00	30,600,000.00
Blk. 19 Lot 1	1,200.00	30,600,000.00
Blk. 19 Lot 5	1,200.00	30,600,000.00
Blk. 20 Lot 11	1,200.00	30,600,000.00
Blk. 20 Lot 15	1,200.00	30,600,000.00
Blk. 21 Lot 15	1200.00	30,600,000.00
Blk. 21 Lot 13	1105.55	28,191,525.00
Blk. 21 Lot 14	1105.55	28,191,525.00
Blk. 20 Lot 13	1,101.00	28,075,500.00
Blk. 20 Lot 14	1,101.00	28,075,500.00
Blk. 20 Lot 12	1,100.65	28,066,575.00
Blk. 18 Lot 2	1,081.85	27,587,175.00
Blk. 18 Lot 3	1,081.85	27,587,175.00
Blk. 18 Lot 4	1,081.85	27,587,175.00
Blk. 13 Lot 2 *	1,077.35	27,472,425.00
Blk. 13 Lot 3	1,077.35	27,472,425.00
Blk. 13 Lot 4	1,077.00	27,463,500.00
Blk. 19 Lot 2	948.08	24,176,040.00
Blk. 19 Lot 3	948.08	24,176,040.00
Blk. 19 Lot 4	948.08	24,176,040.00
Blk. 21 Lot 1 *	631.00	16,090,500.00
Blk. 13 Lot 6	577.00	14,713,500.00

Blk. 13 Lot 15 *	577.00	14,713,500.00
Blk. 20 Lot 1	551.00	14,050,500.00
Blk. 20 Lot 10	551.00	14,050,500.00
Blk. 21 Lot 2 *	539.23	13,750,365.00
Blk. 21 Lot 3	539.23	13,750,365.00
Blk. 18 Lot 15 *	506.00	12,903,000.00
Blk. 13 Lot 7	472.10	12,038,550.00
Blk. 13 Lot 8	472.10	12,038,550.00
Blk. 13 Lot 10	472.10	12,038,550.00
Blk. 13 Lot 11	472.10	12,038,550.00
Blk. 13 Lot 12	472.10	12,038,550.00
Blk. 13 Lot 13	472.10	12,038,550.00
Blk. 13 Lot 14	472.10	12,038,550.00
Blk. 13 Lot 9	471.77	12,030,135.00
Blk. 20 Lot 2	469.73	11,978,115.00
Blk. 20 Lot 3	469.73	11,978,115.00
Blk. 20 Lot 4	469.73	11,978,115.00
Blk. 20 Lot 5	469.73	11,978,115.00
Blk. 20 Lot 6	469.73	11,978,115.00
Blk. 20 Lot 7	469.73	11,978,115.00
Blk. 20 Lot 9	469.73	11,978,115.00
Blk. 20 Lot 8	469.42	11,970,210.00
Blk. 18 Lot 13	419.48	10,696,740.00
Blk. 18 Lot 14 *	419.48	10,696,740.00
2. NASIPIT Property, Brgy. Sta. Ana, Nasipit Agusan del Sur		
Lot 616	131,273.00	P 31,505,520.00
Lot 618	76,394.00	18,334,560.00
Lot 592	68,273.00	16,504,800.00
Lot 615	26,355.00	6,325,200.00
3. SSS TOLEDO PROPERTY, Sangi Toledo Cebu		
Lot No. 6478 B part	130,000.00	P 63,700,000.00
Lot No. 6478 A part	112,179.00	54,967,710.00
Lot No. 604	107,320.00	52,586,800.00
Lot No. 6478 C part	85,593.00	41,940,570.00
Lot No. 605-B	69,158.00	33,887,420.00
Lot No. 578-B	60,474.00	29,632,260.00
Lot No. 4757	45,289.00	22,191,610.00
Lot No. 4039-B	44,001.00	21,560,490.00
Lot No. 11633 (544-part)	40,331.00	21,173,775.00
Lot No. 4042-part	39,674.00	19,440,260.00
Lot No. 142	19,215.00	18,446,400.00
Lot No. 4756	37,316.00	18,284,840.00
Lot No. 4045	34,220.00	16,767,800.00
Lot No. 574-A	34,136.00	16,726,640.00
Lot No. 4752	26,270.00	12,872,300.00
Lot No. 4038	10,926.00	5,353,740.00
Lot No. 4035 –C part	10,000.00	4,900,000.00
Lot No. 586-B part	9,008.00	4,413,920.00
Lot No. 4043-part	9,001.00	4,410,490.00
Lot No. 589 part	7,156.00	3,506,440.00
Lot No. 4044-A	6,555.00	3,211,950.00
Lot No. 568	5,352.00	2,622,480.00
Lot No. 4039-C	2,847.00	1,395,030.00
Lot No. 144	2,217.00	1,252,605.00
Lot No. 4035 –B part	2,068.00	1,013,320.00
Lot No. 569	420.00	760,200.00
Lot No. 171	1,572.00	534,480.00
Lot No. 150-A	946.00	430,430.00
Lot No. 145	714.00	403,410.00

C. RESIDENTIAL

1. SSS Urdaneta Village Properties, Urdaneta Village Makati City		
No. 16 Cerrada St.*	1,324.00	P 92,680,000.00
No. 18 Cerrada St.	1,158.00	81,060,000.00
2. PARKRIDGE ESTATE SUBDIVISION, Phase I Bo. Mayamot, Antipolo, Rizal		
Lot 7 Blk. 2	525.00	P 2,047,500.00
3. VISTA VERDE COUNTRY HOMES, Doyles Town St., Bo. Bulao Cainta Rizal		
Block 5 Lot 10	412.00	P 1,240,120.00
4. Town & Country Homes Heights Phase II, San Luis Antipolo, Rizal		
Block 14 Lot 67	252.00	P 705,600.00
Block 9 Lot 2	217.00	607,600.00
Block 12 Lot 6	192.00	537,600.00
Block 12 Lot 44	180.00	504,000.00
Block 4 Lot 14	150.00	420,000.00
Block 4 Lot 17	150.00	420,000.00
Block 8 Lot 6	150.00	420,000.00
Block 8 Lot 8	150.00	420,000.00
Block 8 Lot 9	150.00	420,000.00
Block 8 Lot 10	150.00	420,000.00
Block 8 Lot 11	150.00	420,000.00
5. Town & Country Southville, Binan, Laguna		
Ph 7 Block 18 Lot 1	180.00	P 540,000.00
Ph 7 Block 13 Lot 45	176.00	528,000.00
Ph 5 Block 10 Lot 23	108.00	372,000.00
Ph 6 Block 3 Lot 12	108.00	356,400.00
Ph 6 Block 6 Lot 7	108.00	356,400.00
Ph 7 Block 19 Lot 16	108.00	324,000.00
Ph 7 Block 12 Lot 15	96.00	288,000.00
6. Northfields Rosewood Village, Bo. Buguion Calumpit, Bulacan		
Block 9-C Lot 6	240.00	P 903,840.00
Block 12-A Lot 15	213.00	866,910.00
Block 9-C Lot 7	225.00	847,350.00
Block 12-A Lot 12	205.00	P 834,350.00
Block 11-A Lot 9	170.00	691,900.00
Block 5-B Lot 10	170.00	640,220.00
Block 5-B Lot 11	169.00	636,454.00
Block 5-B Lot 9	166.00	625,156.00
Block 9-C Lot 5	164.00	617,624.00
Block 5-B Lot 8	163.00	613,858.00
Block 5-B Lot 7	159.00	598,794.00
Block 9-C Lot 8	156.00	587,496.00
Block 5-B Lot 6	155.00	583,730.00
Block 9-C Lot 4	154.00	579,964.00
Block 12-A Lot 13	141.00	573,870.00
Block 12-A Lot 14	141.00	573,870.00
Block 5-B Lot 5	151.00	568,666.00
Block 9-C Lot 3	151.00	568,666.00
Block 9-C Lot 2	148.00	557,368.00
Block 5-B Lot 3	143.00	538,538.00
Block 5-B Lot 4	143.00	538,538.00
Block 5-B Lot 2	139.00	523,474.00
Block 1-B Lot 36	134.00	504,644.00
Block 1-B Lot 37	133.00	500,878.00
Block 1-B Lot 38	132.00	497,112.00
Block 1-B Lot 39	131.00	493,346.00
Block 1-B Lot 40	130.00	489,580.00
Block 1-B Lot 41	129.00	485,814.00
Block 5-C Lot 25	119.00	448,154.00
Block 5-C Lot 22	118.00	444,388.00
Block 5-C Lot 23	118.00	444,388.00
Block 5-C Lot 24	118.00	444,388.00
Block 5-C Lot 20	117.00	440,622.00
Block 5-C Lot 21	117.00	440,622.00
Block 5-C Lot 17	116.00	436,856.00
Block 5-C Lot 18	116.00	436,856.00
Block 5-C Lot 19	116.00	436,856.00
Block 5-C Lot 14	113.00	425,558.00
Block 5-C Lot 11	112.00	421,792.00
Block 5-C Lot 12	112.00	421,792.00
Block 5-C Lot 13	112.00	421,792.00
Block 5-C Lot 6	111.00	418,026.00
Block 5-C Lot 9	111.00	418,026.00
Block 5-C Lot 10	111.00	418,026.00
Block 5-C Lot 7	110.00	414,260.00

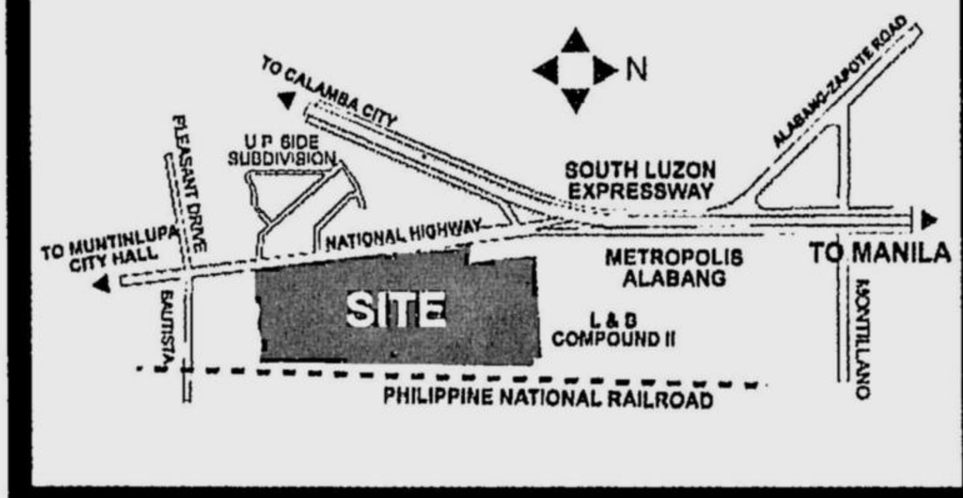
* With Existing Lease Contract

For more information

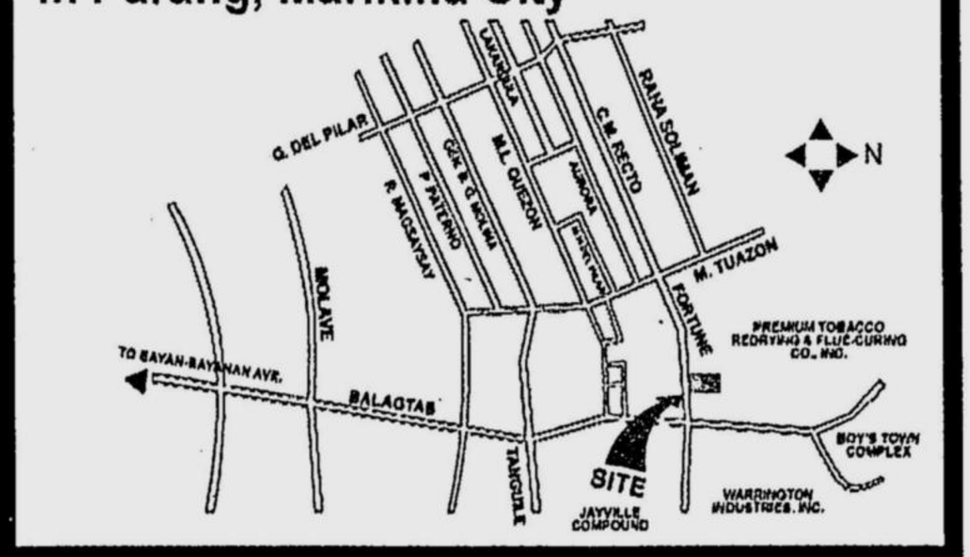
Please contact
The Office of the Assistant Vice President,
Asset Management Department
at telephone number
(632) 435-9877 or 920-6401.

Prime Properties FOR SALE

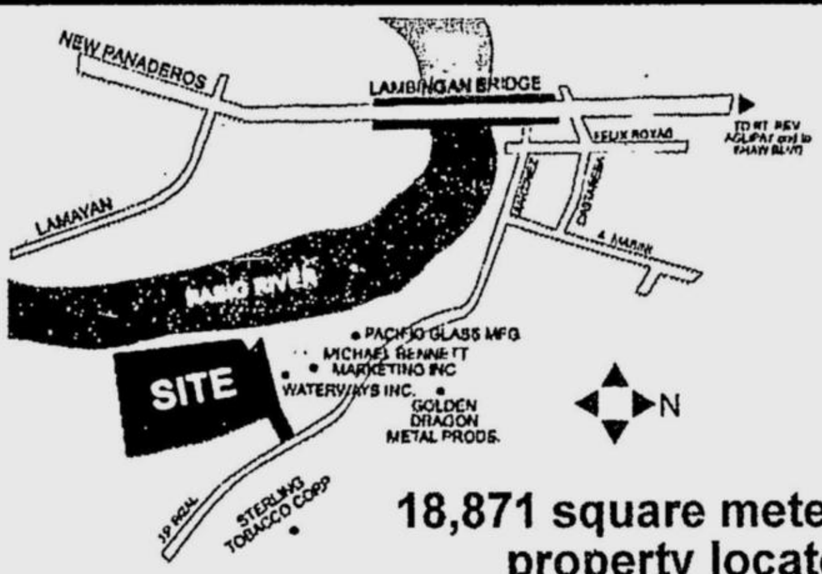
66,158 square meters property located in Alabang, Muntinlupa City



2,587 square meters property located in Parang, Marikina City

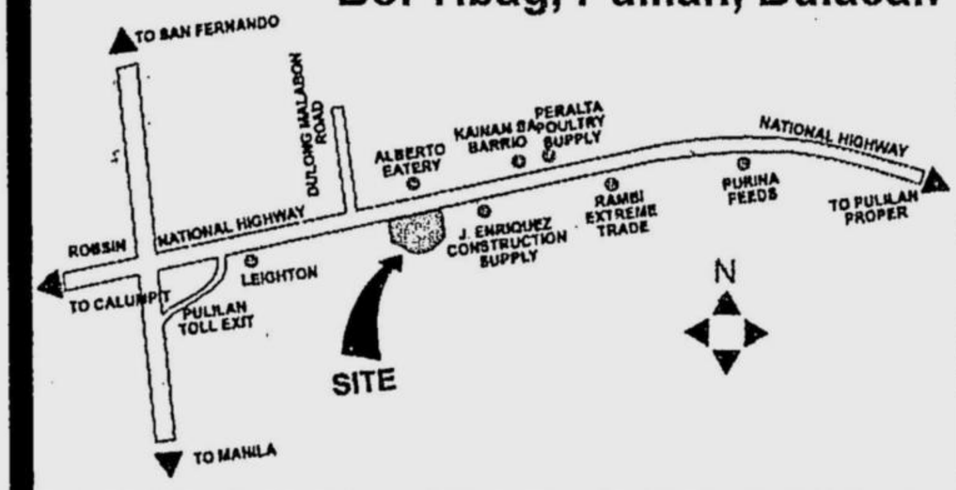


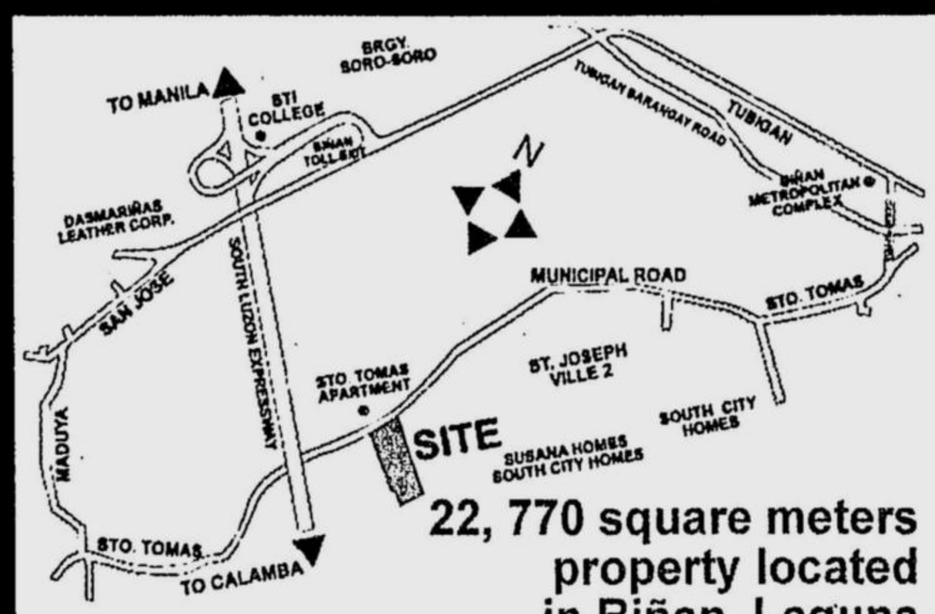
7,368 square meters property located in Chino Roces Ave. Makati City



18,871 square meters property located in Namayan, Mandaluyong City

39,506 square meters property located in Bo. Tibag, Pulilan, Bulacan





22, 770 square meters property located in Biñan, Laguna

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Josemari Cuervo - 0917-8962368
Ronald Agustin - 0928-3428256
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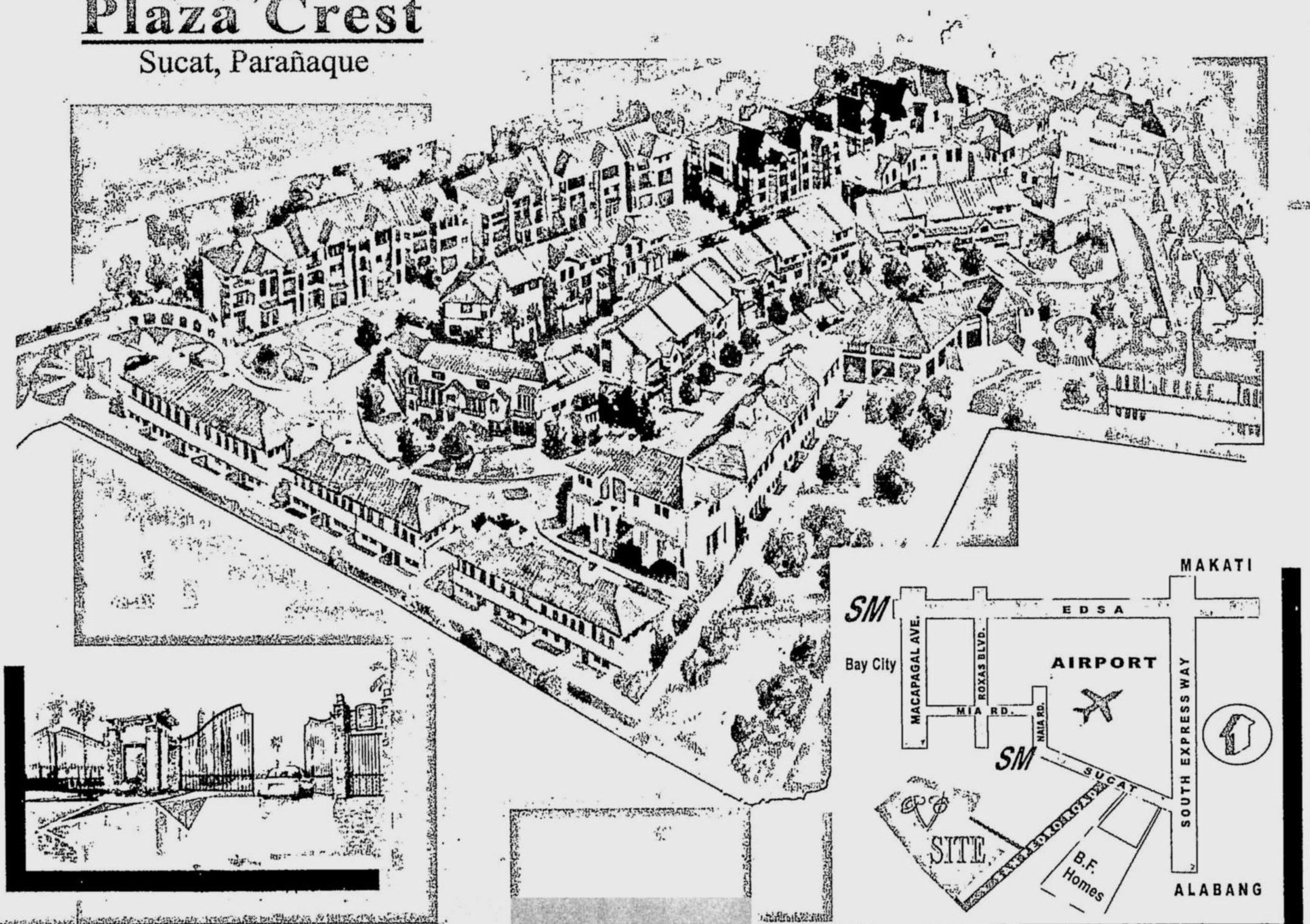

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Steel-framed Modela Houses

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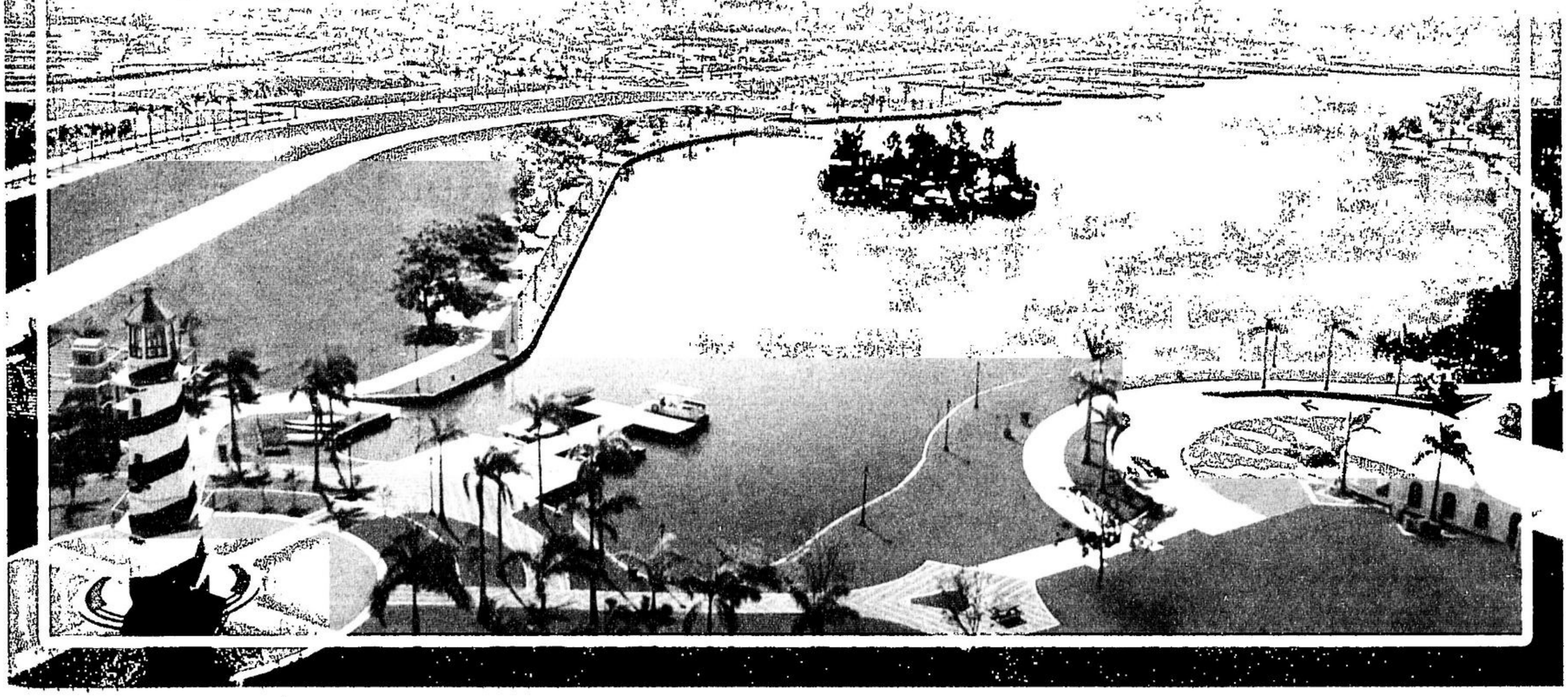
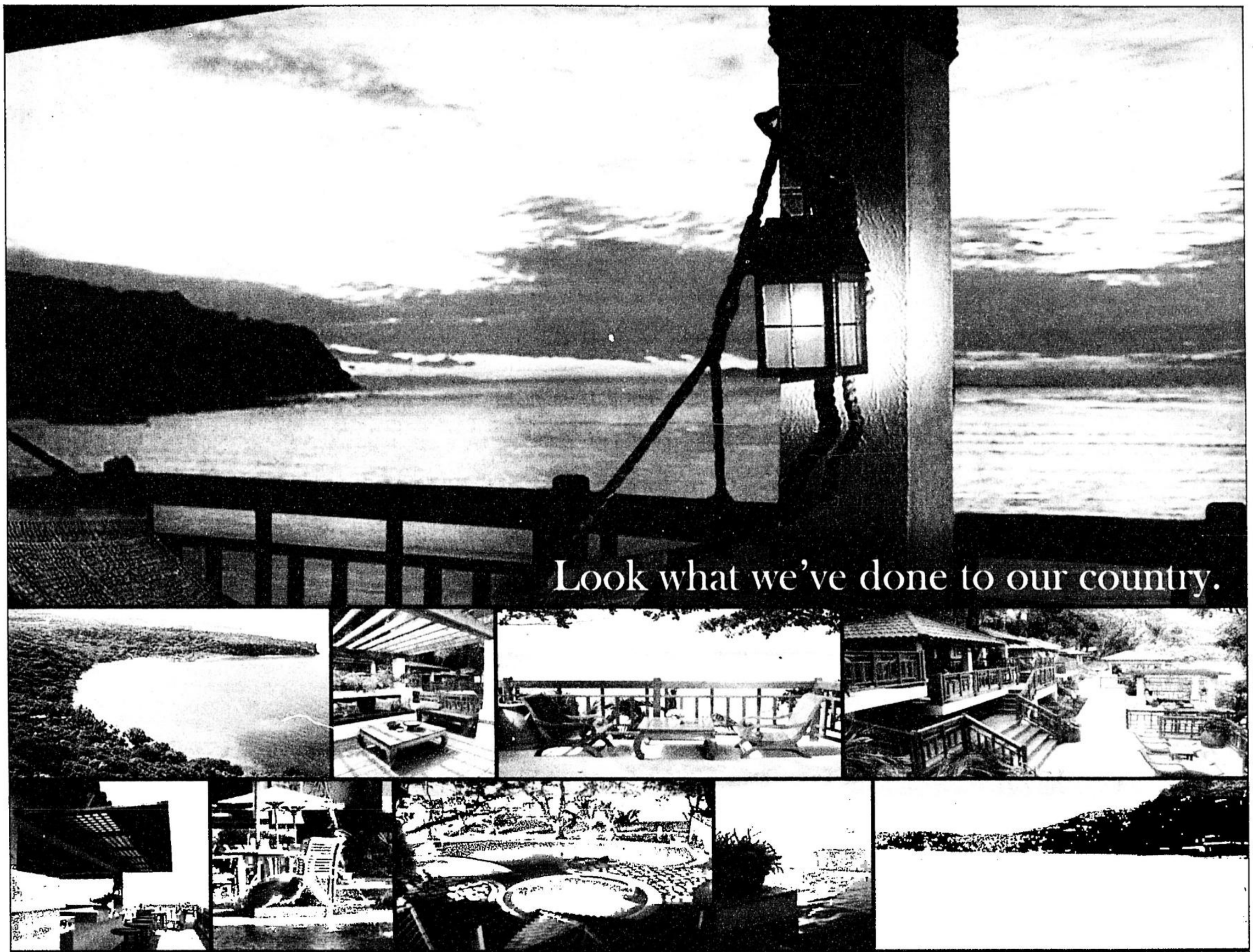
The Lakeshore Island

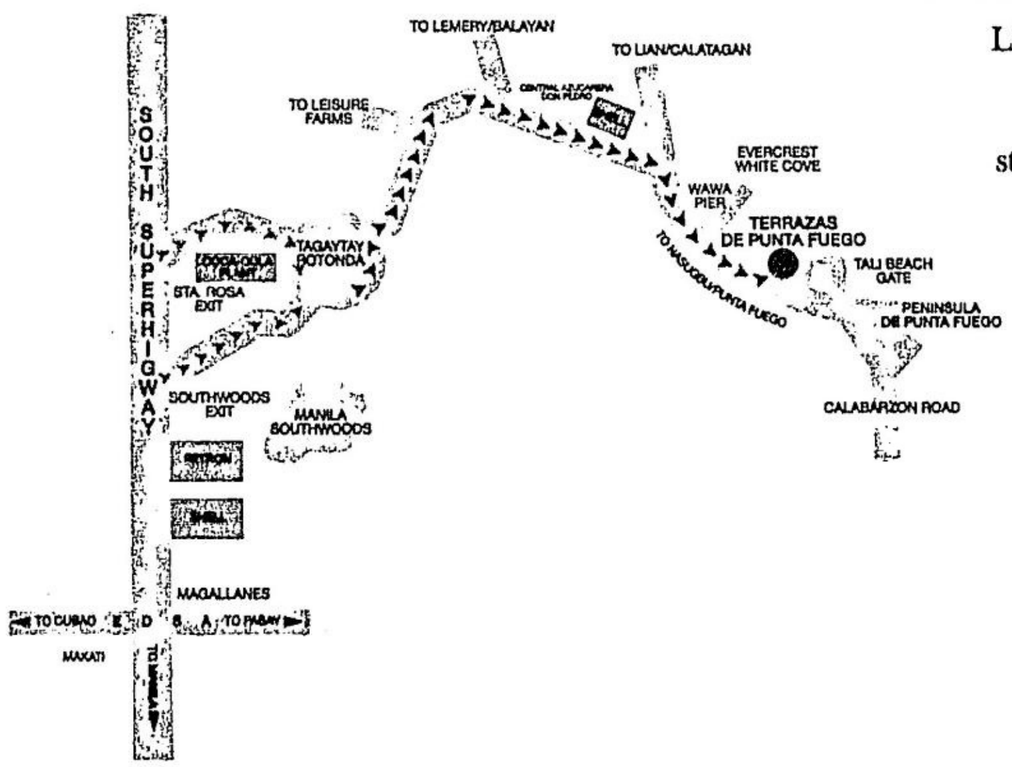
The Lakeshore is a world-class residential commercial and recreational development project of Central Country Estate, Incorporated, located at Kilometer 71 of the North Luzon Expressway, Mexico, Pampanga- a 30-minute drive from Balintawak tollgate, 12 minutes from Diosdado Macapagal International Airport, and just 5 minutes from SM City Pampanga.

The Timeless elegance of classic Mediterranean architecture combined with the grandest elements of Earth, Water and Sky creates a lifestyle that soars above and beyond the ordinary. This self-contained community boasts of its 12-hectare man-made lake framed by the majestic panorama of Mount Arayat. At The Lakeshore, everyday is a vacation.





Actual photos taken at Terrazas de Punta Fuego



It's amazing what a little time and inspiration can do. The blues are bluer, the greens greener. Living in the Philippines has never been better. That's what you will discover in the new Terrazas de Punta Fuego. One hundred fifty acres of prime beachfront properties stretching across eight hundred seventy-five yards of pristine white sand and clear water.

All the right reasons to build your country home.

TERRAZAS
de PUNTA FUEGO

Find out more at 1-800-99-LNDCO (56326)

For calls within the Philippines (02) 809-7316

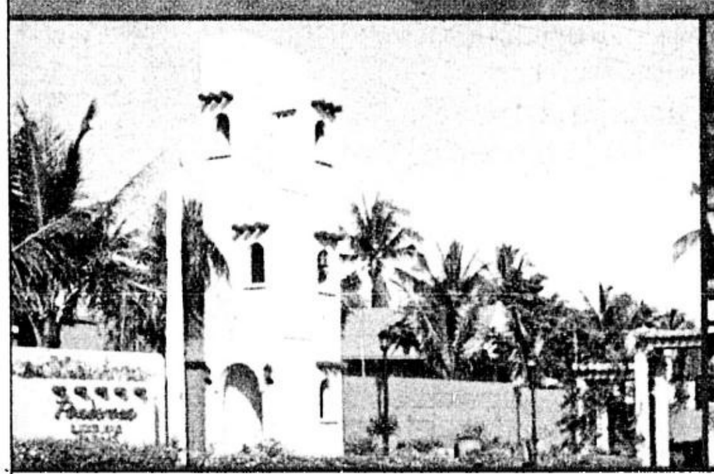
or check out **www.landcopacific.com**

Terrazas de Punta Fuego is located in Nasugbu, Batangas, now just a two-hour drive from Manila via the new Tagaytay-Nasugbu Tourism Highway. It is a quality development project of Landco Pacific Corporation in partnership with Roxaco Land Corporation.

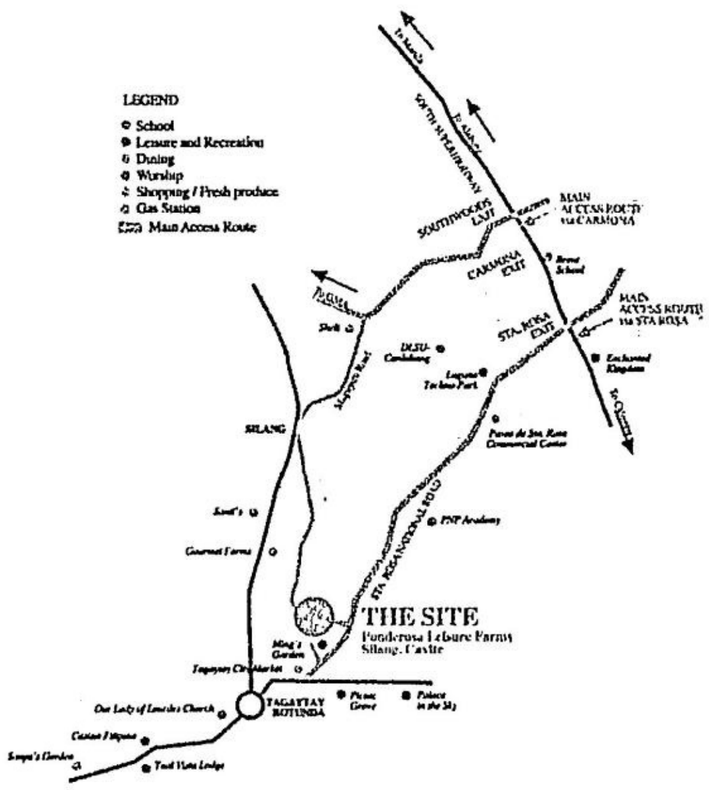
Landco Pacific Corporation is a multi-product developer of high-quality residential resorts, leisure farms, first homes subdivisions, shopping centers and CBD's and memorial parks. Committed to provide superior value in its developments, the company is a benchmark for outstanding lifestyle products that always dare to innovate.

Lifestyle communities created by:

LANDCO PACIFIC CORPORATION



Actual photos taken at Ponderosa Leisure Farms



While you've been busy looking for greener pastures, we've been greening up the countryside. You will be pleasantly surprised to see how much different it can be given a little time and imagination. This is Ponderosa Leisure Farms. It's the first of its kind residential garden community nestled on acres and acres of gently rolling terrain, caressed by the cool mountain air of Tagaytay.

There's just no place like home.

Find out more at 1-800-99-LNDCO (56326)

For calls within the Philippines (02) 809-3853

or check out **www.landcopacific.com**

Lifestyle communities created by:

LANDCO PACIFIC CORPORATION

In partnership with:

PONDEROSA FARMS, INC.

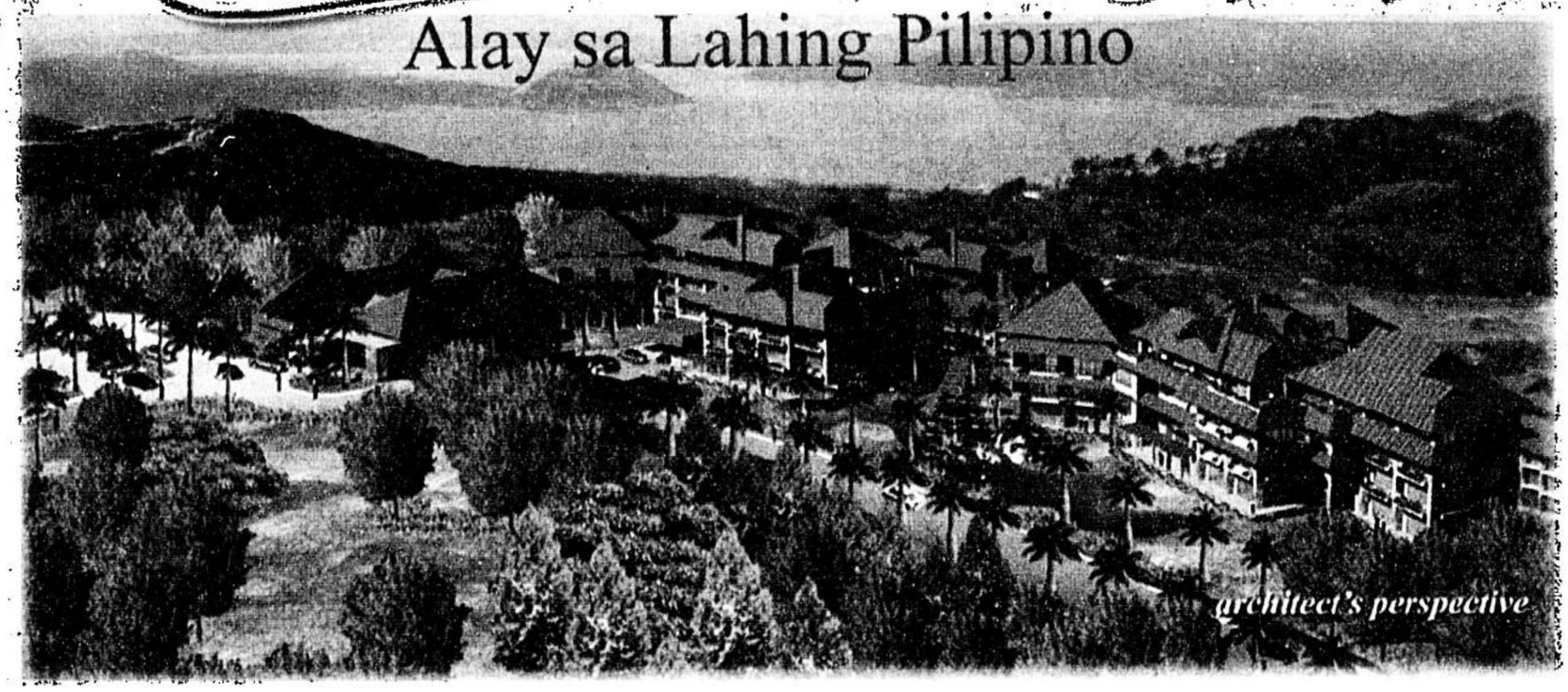
Ponderosa Leisure Farms is located in Silang, Cavite, a collaboration between the 20-year-old Ponderosa Farms, Inc. and developer Landco Pacific Corporation.

Landco Pacific Corporation is a multi-product developer of high-quality residential resorts, leisure farms, first homes subdivisions, shopping centers and CBD's and memorial parks. Committed to provide superior value in its developments, the company is a benchmark for outstanding lifestyle products that always dare to innovate.

Ponderosa LEISURE FARMS

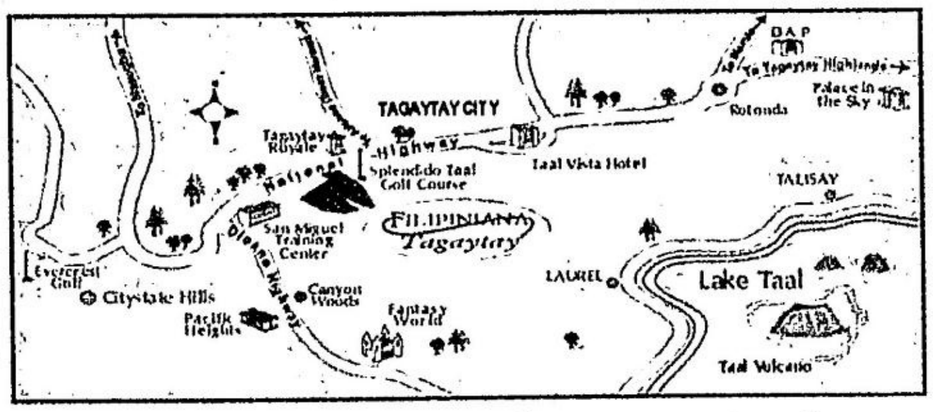
FILIPINIANA *Tagaytay*

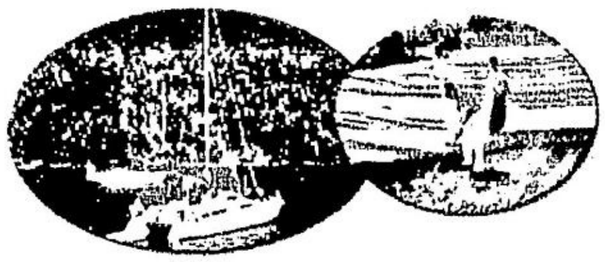
Alay sa Lahing Pilipino



architect's perspective

The first 100% Filipino-design project along Tagaytay Highway overlooking Taal Lake, envisioned as a mixed use world-class vacation resort. A combination of hotel-restaurant, condotel buildings, garden apartments, themeparks, villa clusters, duplexes, quadruplexes, clubhouse, and town center. A showcase of Filipino culture, heritage and tradition.





Filipiniana Tagaytay forms part of the 200 meter long frontage along Tagaytay National Highway, Laurel Batangas kilometer 69, approximately one hour by land from Manila, or one hour from Batangas International Port and the Ninoy Aquino International Airport, and thirty minutes to the beach resorts.

Filipiniana Tagaytay is near to Splendido Golf and Country Club, Evercrest Golf, and other commercial establishments. It has access to beach resorts along Nasugbu Batangas, Mindoro and nearby areas. A perfect vacation home and resort for everyone who deserves leisure living at its best.

Condo units
Initial Price
₱1.7M
Cash/Deferred Cash/Pag-IBIG or Bank Financing

Owner/Developer:

Filipiniana Tagaytay Properties, Inc.

For details/reservation, call:

RGV Real Estate Center, Inc.

5470 RGV Bldg. Pres. Osmeña Highway Makati City, Phil.

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